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NO. 61

MAY 1989

CRISIS & CONFLICT ANALYSIS TEAM
THE INSTITUTE OF STRATEGIC STUDIES
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1. The Crisis and Conflict Analysis Team comprises of leading academicians, strategists, researchers and policy analysts interested in the study of international relations. The members of this team meet periodically in groups; one team is devoted to the study of the Afghan crisis and conflict. In the light of carefully monitored information each group reviews current developments in its respective conflict area, and offers various policy options for consideration. While the Institute of Strategic Studies provides the forum, coordinates research and publishes the findings of the Crisis and Conflict Analysis Team, it does not necessarily share the views expressed by the team members whose participation in this group is in their individual capacity.

2. The information and overt intelligence incorporated in this report after collection, collation, and evaluation is based on primary and secondary sources of all the parties in the conflict. The primary sources availed are the monitoring reports of Pakistan Broadcasting Corporation covering Moscow, Tashkent, Dushambe and Kabul broadcasts, Afghan, Soviet, and other Embassy handouts, and information received from the Afghan Documentation Centre, Afghan Information Centre, the Afghan Islamic Press, and the Agency Afghan Press files. Secondary sources are the international media, and research papers and writings of the academicians. We are aware of the paucity of correct, complete and timely information from closed societies, as also the lack of formal and trained command, control, communication and intelligence set-up in the Mujahideen, as present in regular armies.

— Editor

AFGHANISTAN REPORT: MAY 1989

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ACRONYMS

AAP	=	Agency Afghan Press (Mujahideen).
AAPSO	=	Afro-Asian People's Solidarity Organization.
AAWC	=	All Afghanistan's Women Council.
ADBA	=	Agricultural Development Bank of Afghanistan.
ALA	=	Association of Lawyers of Afghanistan.
APC	=	Armoured Personnel Carrier.
CC	=	Central Committee.
CP	=	Communist Party.
RA	=	Republic of Afghanistan.
DYOA	=	Democratic Youth Organization of Afghanistan.
HIS	=	Haqiqat-e-Inqilab-e-Saur ('The Truth of the Saur Revolution'), daily newspaper.
HMV	=	Heavy Military Vehicles.
IHT	=	International Herald Tribune.
ICRC	=	International Committee of the Red Cross.
KHAD	=	State Secret Service.
KT	=	The Kabul Times.
LOSPA	=	Local Organs of State Power and Administration.
NF	=	National Front.
PDPA	=	Peoples Democratic Party of Afghanistan.
POA	=	Pioneers Organization of Afghanistan.
PSFO	=	Peace, Solidarity and Friendship Organization.
RC	=	Revolutionary Council.
SAFS	=	Soviet Afghan Friendship Society.
TUA	=	Trade Unions of Afghanistan.
UJA	=	Union of Journalists of Afghanistan.
UNESCO	=	United Nations Educational Scientific and Cultural Organization.
UNGA	=	United Nations General Assembly.
VFA	=	Voice of Free Afghanistan.
VOA	=	Voice of America.
VOG	=	Voice of Germany.
VOIR	=	Voice of Islamic Revolutionary Afghanistan (reportedly based in Iran).
WDS	=	Western Diplomatic Sources.
WHO	=	World Health Organization.
YPO	=	Young Pioneer's Organization.

'Jehad'	=	To strive, struggle, resist, fight against, as an article of Faith. One of the main tenets of Islam.
'Mujahideen'		Those who take part in Jehad against oppression and aggression, as an article of faith.
'Jirga'	=	Assembly of Tribal Elders.
'Loi Jirga'	=	National Assembly of Tribal Elders.
'Afghanis'	=	Afghan Currency.

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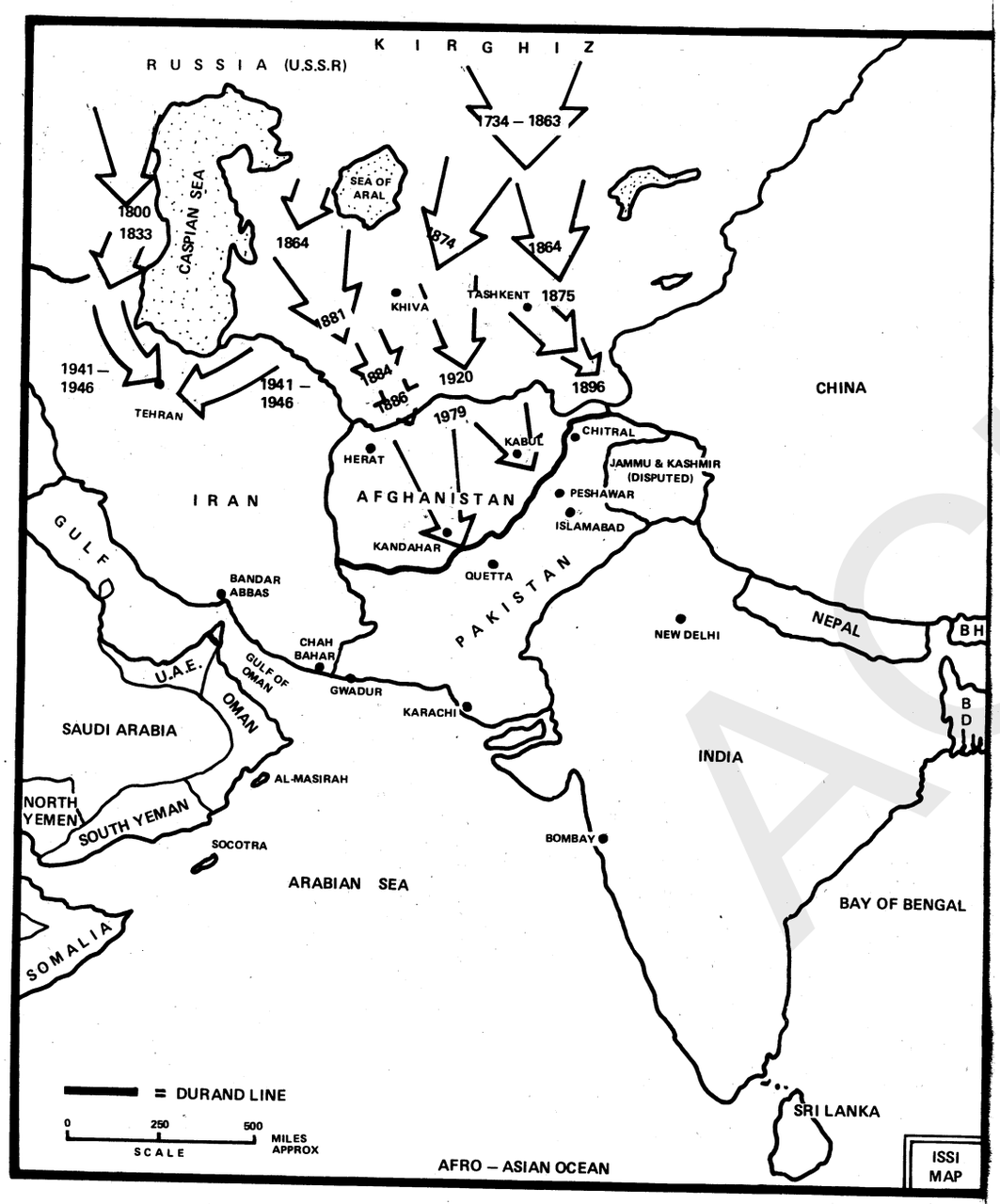
THE HISTORICAL PERSPECTIVE



I.– THE FOURTH AFGHAN WAR

1 – SUMMARY PERSPECTIVE (See map Appendix 7)

Mujahideen sources reported 504 incidents in 23 out of 31 Afghan provinces during April 1989. These 504 Military engagements comprised of 113 Mujahideen strikes on mobile targets and 214 strikes against immobile targets. Kabul forces conducted at least 124 air and ground strikes against Mujahideen fixed positions or mobile groups.

The highest intensity of conflict was reported from Ningarhar, Kabul, Parwan, followed by Qandahar and Paktiya provinces.

Defenctions

According to Mujahideen report about 2,809 Afghan troops defected to Mujahideen in April 1989. Defections took place in 15 Afghan provinces.

Aerial Losses

Total air losses during the reporting month were 35 aircraft. This included 15 fighters/bombers/transport aeroplanes and 6 helicopters destroyed or damaged on the airfields of Bagram, Qandahar and Khost. Several aircraft were destroyed or damaged on the Bagram airfield alone in 6 different rocket/missile attacks.

Soviet-Kabul Coverage

According to Radio Kabul reports Security Forces conducted 83 operations in 17 provinces.

According to figures cited by Kabul media 5,489. "Counter-revolutionaries" were killed and 3,490 wounded. It was reported that counter-revolutionary elements carried out 101 "acts of subversion" in 15 provinces.

Qandahar Province

Soviet-Kabul sources reported a number of incidents that took place in Daman district of Qandahar province in early April. Later, a TASS release dated April 25 stated that "the situation has exacerbated" in that area "where the die hards of the opposition launched an offensive using artillery."

The author wishes to acknowledge the assistance provided by the Institute of Policy Studies, Islamabad, in the preparation of this part of the monthly report.

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Paktiya Province

Khost district of Paktiya province also witnessed sizeable activity. On April 2, TASS said that the town of Khost came under intensive shelling by the opposition groups. A week later TASS reported that "formations of the irreconcilable opposition have taken a large-scale advance on Khost district. ... In the vicinity of Khost, the enemy managed to capture four guard posts, but their advance was halted by artillery fire and Airforce strikes" (April 7). A TASS correspondent reported on April 11 that the situation in Khost was "seriously aggravated after rebel launched an assault on positions of government troops from three directions. The rebels used tanks and armoured personnel carriers. Now this area is swept by fierce fighting." Radio Kabul reported on April 12 that "the joint enemy forces launched a new offensive ıwenty kilometres North West of Khost."

Parwan Province

A spokesman of Najib regime stated on April 14, that Kabul government forces have launched an operation to clear the strategic highway between Kabul and the country's northern borders. ... Traffic on the road, the principal route for fuel, food and other supplies to the Afghan capital, was halted several days ago due to repeated rebel attacks on convoys. The spokesman expressed that the highway, passing through the Salang, will reopen in the near future. A week later Radio Kabul reported about an operation conducted by regime troops against extremist groups who were engaged in subversive activities on Salang highway ... and ... were trying to make economic blockade of Kabul city (April 21).

Kabul Province

The Soviet daily Izvestiya published correspondent A. Ivanko's article from Kabul on April 2. Ivanko writes that "Kabul is experiencing serious difficulties ... waiting lines never seen in past are now inalienable feature of the city's image. ... People wait in line for bread, gasoline and other vital necessities." Afghanistan's Minister of Commerce Burhanuddin Ghiyasi admitted in his interview with Izvestiya that the present "shortage are largely attributable to our own miscalculations." The Minister went on "We did not stockpile essentials in time and now we are forced to bring them in from other regions, including areas of combat operations."

Izvestiya's correspondent points out that the Najib administration is helpless in controlling prices in the capital's markets ... "prices are exorbitant. The state is making no attempt to regulate their market

level: This would only antagonize the stall owners and prompt them to close down their stall."

Ivanko observed that at the foreign exchange office in Kabul's Continental hotel a dollar is wroth four or five times more than its official rate. "The foreign currency the Republic need so badly, used to by pass the state," he remarked.

On April 20, a rocket propelled shell exploded in the Soviet Embassy in Kabul. The Soviet Ambassador to Kabul warned that those directly or indirectly responsible for this attack "would not go unpunished."

A report from Pravda's Kabul correspondent O. Igantyev published on April 25 said that bomb blasts and rocket attacks "against Kabul have become more frequent recently." These incidents, says Igantyev, were in connection with April 27 celebrations. The Pravda correspondent interviewed Interior Minister Aslam Watanyar to know about "measures being taken during these days celebration to strengthen the capital's security. The Minister stated that they had "a carefully prepared plan for this period ... with a number of measures to create a powerful defence regardless of the 27 April celebrations." However, TASS reported on April 27, that "units of the irreconcilable opposition ... (once) again mounted missile attack on the Afghan capital. One of these rockets exploded near the USSR Embassy. Information about the damage is being clarified."

On April 29, Radio Moscow reported that the rocket attacks on Kabul were continuing, about fifty rockets were fired on the city on 27th April.

On the same day Radio Kabul reported that "an active member and former Secretary of the Afghan Democratic Youth Organization Khalil Khusro, has been martyred in a direct armed clash with the enemies. ..."

2 — NOTEABLE MILITARY DEVELOPMENTS
A WEEKLY ACCOUNT OF THE JALALABAD WAR

WEEK ONE

Clean-up Operations on Sarubi-Jalalabad Highway

In the first week of March, Kabul sources were giving news about security forces clean-up operations on Kabul-Jalalabad highway. On March 7, for example, Kabul Times referred to "extremist elements" who were conducting "devastated deeds" on Sarubi-Jalalabad Highway and reported losses inflicted on them by the security forces. These

sources were silent about any developments on Jalalabad-Torkham road in the fore-mentioned period.

WEEK TWO

Facing External Aggression

From March 8 onwards, a change in tone and size of combat coverage was visible on the Soviet-Kabul media. The emphasis was now on the "defence of the fatherland in wake of external aggression." For the first time these sources were providing detailed information regarding comparative strength of the belligerents alongwith areas of their deployment, nature and type of weaponry in use and losses sustained by particularly, the Mujahideen side. Allegations of Pakistani involvement became a prominently recurring theme. A Radio Kabul item alleged that armed groups involved in aggressive activities from positions in Surk Dewar "are supported by Pakistani troops and commandos."

On March 10 it stated that "extremist elements with direct support of Pakistani military men have been attacking Ningarhar province for the last five days." Morale boosting phrases were assuring the domestic audience that "the PDPA and every person of the armed forces will defend the country till their last breath from the naked interference of Pakistan."

Radio Kabul was also making efforts to build image of the Kabul troops and their capabilities. On March 10 it said: "Afghan Armed Forces are countering with high morale and spirit the joint attacks of the armed extremist groups and Pakistani armed forces." The same news item also alleged that Pakistani military helicopters were flying foreign advisors into Ningarhar.

Radio Kabul in its March 11 Pushto commentary stated: "Tanks and fighter planes of Pakistan cannot break the firm determination of the brave Afghanis." The commentary attempted to give the Jalalabad conflict an ethnic touch when it alleged that Punjabi mercenaries and commandos were involved in the war with brave Afghans, and commented that: "Pakhtuns will never lag behind in war with the Punjabis."

A front page item in Kabul Times stated on March 15 that the "invasion jointly launched by the Pakistani militia and soldiers as well as armed groups attached to them on March 6 for occupying Jalalabad is still continuing. ... Pakistan ... artillery ... rocket units and helicopters are active in the back lines of the front."

A Radio Kabul Pushto commentary on March 16 said: Now-a-days Afghanistan is under the joint invasion of the Punjabi Generals, feudals, and the extremists supported by Pakistan and America. ..."

The daily "Red Star" on March 19 noted that "the battle for Jalalabad (was) not over ... the government troops have not inflicted a decisive defeat on the attackers. This is accounted for not only and not so much by the strength of the armed opposition ... Pakistan's inciting role plays a special part. ..."

WEEK THREE

Defence of Jalalabad

A four columns item in Kabul Times dated March 12 stated that "the vast invasion of extremist forces and militia commandos of Pakistan was stopped and in some instances were drawn back under the suppressing powerful blows ... in the outskirts of Jalalabad" by the regime forces. The news item further stated that the "enemy forces worked out the plan to besiege and attack Jalalabad from 3 directions," that is, through (i) Torkham, (ii) Chapparhar-Khugiani and (iii) Kunar.

A despatch from Radio Moscow's Afghanistan correspondent A. Shkirando stated on March 16 that Jalalabad "the administrative centre of Ningarhar province was subjected to attack from four directions: The south-east, south-west, north and north-east."

The Kabul Times reported that as per order of the Supreme Command of the (Afghan) armed forces ... Lt. Gen. Mohammad Asif Dilawar, Chief of General Staff of the armed forces would also perform responsibility as commandant of Ningarhar front from March 7 onwards. In its 24th March issue of the daily Pravda the Kabul regime's Defence Minister, General Shah Nawaz Tanai admitted in an interview that Jalalabad Garrisons' Corp Commander, Lt. Gen. Barakzai got killed in action on the first day of Mujahideen attack on March 6.

On one end Radio Kabul informed its listeners that "units ... of the armed forces in Ningarhar province ... further strengthened and consolidated their positions against the enemy ... inflicted deadly blows on the Pakistan military men and the extremists ... and foiled their attacks. ..." Nearabout the same time the Soviet press agency's observation was quite different. A March 16, TASS despatch suggested that there was "a tense situation around Jalalabad. ... It was being subjected to constant attacks ... the government forces were facing rebels' raids within a radius of 10 to 15 kilometres from the outskirts of the city ... and rocket attacks and shelling of Jalalabad continued."

March 17 evening news on Radio Kabul was eulogising the Afghan Armed Forces who were "inflicting deadly blows to the extremists ..." and that the Security Forces have retaliated attacks of the enemy with heroism. ..." The same evening Radio Moscow reported that "... the

rebels ... have surrounded the city from the north, south and west, but so far have not entered into the city. ..."

On March 18, Pushto news on Radio Kabul told its listeners that the "resistance of the Afghan heroic Armed Forces in Ningarhar province ... has ... badly affected the morale of the belligerent groups and they have even lost the courage of facing the Afghan Armed Forces in the battlefield. ..."

Moscow Television newscast on the same evening however did not air similar impression to its viewers. Host Yurily Rostov was shown interviewing correspondent A. Shkirando through a T.V. monitor via satellite from Afghanistan:

Shkirando responded that it was "difficult ... to definitely answer the question of whether or not Jalalabad will hold out: He emphasized that what were seeing in Jalalabad was not "just an acute manifestation of this conflict within Afghanistan, but armed interference of Pakistan, interference that is growing into aggression. ..."

By the third week of March both Soviet and Kabul sources were talking of added pressure faced on the Jalalabad front.

Rubric of an article published on March 19, in the daily "Red Star" spoke about "Afghanistan's difficult days." Observer Manki Panomarev wrote that "the tension of the situation in Afghanistan has not diminished. On the contrary it has increased still more. ... The ... war ... is intensifying and growing in size. ..." The writer also mentioned the "fierceness of the fighting outside the walls of Jalalabad, where the opposition forces are trying to show what they are capable of. ..."

Use of Air Force at the Jalalabad Front

Another notable feature was frequent mention of Afghan Air Force air operations by regime sources. Radio Kabul reported deployment of Afghan Air Force planes in support of the land forces against enemy positions and strongholds on March 4, 10, 11, 12 and 15.

Addressing an Air Force delegation in Kabul on March 7, Dr. Najibullah said that "Our air force have changed to a source of hope of our people for the success over the extremists and aggression from abroad."

On March 15, a Radio Kabul domestic service programme in Dari commended the Kabul regime Air Force on the Republic for taking extensive part in battle against the joint Pakistan and opposition armed forces linked to Pakistan, who have invaded the city of Jalalabad ... pilots of Air Force render regular combat flights to the battle fronts in Ningarhar province. ... The Afghan pilots without feeling tired, fly more than used every day attacking enemy positions and their supply routes in Ningarhar province. ...." TASS reported on March 24 that "aircraft of the Afghan Air Force have carried out a series of strikes on the region in which the extremists are based and on their supply routes."

WEEK FOUR

Afghan Air Force Flies over 100 sorties a day in Jalalabad Region

An interview with Major General Nurullah, Chief of Staff of the Afghan Air Force and of the capital's air defence was published in "Sovetskaya Rossia" on 28 March 1989. The Air Chief stated that "throughout past week (20-27 March 1989) ... the Air Force was engaged in inflicting strikes on the aggressor in Jalalabad region. Airmen work at full stretch and even rest sitting in the cockpit so as to lose no time in case of a battle alert. ... Each pilot makes an average of 7 combat sorties every 24 hours, while Colonel Mustafa made 11, in 24 hours. Only airmen can understand what kind of load this is, as only two or three sorties are made in an ordinary combat situation. ... As many as 100-120 aircraft sorties a day are made in the Jalalabad region."

Number of Aircraft Lost

The Afghan Air Chief told the Soviet correspondent that they have "lost two aircraft during the fighting ... to hit targets more accurately, our airmen fly at low altitude, down to 300 metres. This is dangerous, but it is hard to stop them ... our slogan today is 'Motherland or Death!' The Republic Armed Forces are taking a decisive test of strength. And they are taking it ... by the walls of Jalalabad to the whistling of bullets and shell bursts. ..."

However, a few days later, Afghan Air Force's General Rahmatullah told a press conference in Kabul that the Afghan pilots were using certain "technology which protects them from US-made stingers and British-made Blowpipe missiles." He added that they "have not lost even a single aircraft in the Jalalabad which has been going on for about last two months" (Radio Moscow, May 2, 1989).

3 — PROVINCEWISE SURVEY ANALYSIS

Provinces Bordering Pakistan

Nimruz (also bordering Iran)

Nil Report.

Hilmand

Mujahideen sources: On April 7: Mujahideen attacked Kabul

regime troops and establishments in Grishk district, killing and wounding a number of soldiers. Mujahideen also attacked security posts around the provincial capital, Lashkargah.

Radio Tehran: A Militia commander of the Kabul regime surrendered to the Afghan Mujahideen in Hilmand province along with 600 men. They handed over different kind of arms and 32 military vehicles to the Mujahideen (April 28, 1989).

Radio Kabul: Bakhtar News Agency reports that 62 terrorists were killed and many others injured as a result of internecine clashes between rival terrorist groups in Farah, Herat and Hilmand provinces (News—Pushto: April 2, 1989).

The terrorists also attacked Grishk city of Hilmand province but there were not any human casualties (News—Pushto: April 7, 1989).

Yesterday, the enemy forces fired ground-to-ground missiles on Grishk Uoleswali of Hilmand province. As a result two soldiers of the National Brigade were martyred and sixteen citizens were injured. Due to the counter-firing of the Afghan Armed Forces, 62 extremists affiliated with Pakistan were killed and 28 others injured (April 20, 1989).

Qandahar

Mujahideen sources: On April 5: Mujahideen attack Qandahar Airport complex. Forty-eight members of the regime militia surrendered to Mujahideen. The attack was conducted from Torkotal and Arghandab side.

A security post was taken and 5 pieces of cannon and some other weapons seized.

On April 7: Fifteen regime troops, including some officers, surrendered to Mujahideen near Qandahar city.

On April 13: Mujahideen attacked an army camp near Qandahar city.

On April 18: Mujahideen capture 3 army trucks carrying a consignment of Soviet-made 'bombs' in the neighbourhood of Qandahar city. Mujahideen discovered these were 'napalm' bombs.

Mujahideen fired rockets on a power generating station near Eidgah in a Qandahar city suburb. Transmission of electricity from this station to Qandahar city remained suspended for 4 days.

On April 23: A Mujahideen jeep hits a landmine in Spin Buldak liberated territory. Atleast one Mujahid was killed.

On April 26: Mujahideen fired rockets on targets inside Qandahar city and Qandahar Airport complex. A number of buildings received direct hits and were destroyed.

VIRA: The Afghan Mujahideen blasted an electric power station

in Qandahar city two days ago. In this operation 10 Kabul troops were killed. The report adds that the Qandahar city was plunged into darkness (April 24, 1989).

The Mujahideen killed two military officers of the Kabul regime and injured 16 others in Qandahar city. In another operation the Mujahideen killed four Kabul troops and captured 10 others in Qandahar city (April 28, 1989).

Radio Tehran: The Mujahideen killed 15 Kabul regime troops during recent fighting in the suburbs of Qandahar. Similarly, the Mujahideen killed fourteen Khad agents and wounded eight others during their attacks on an espionage centre of these agents (News—Pushto: April 28, 1989).

VOA: The Afghan Mujahideen are planning to launch an offensive on Qandahar airport. Our correspondent Garry Thomas reports from Islamabad that the Afghan Interim Government has decided to keep all military operations against the Kabul Government under the control of a central command. Qamar Abbas Jaffery reads out details of the report:

The decision to launch a coordinated and organised attack on Qandahar airport was made during a meeting among Ministers of Defence and Interior of the Interim Government and field commanders of the Afghan Mujahideen. For this purpose, deliberations among them continued over the last few days in the Mujahideen hideouts outside Qandahar.

The Defence Minister of the Afghan Interim Government, Mohammad Nabi Mohammadi, who had recently been in Qandahar, has said that arms and ammunition and funds have been provided to the Mujahideen, who have besieged the Qandahar airport, enabling them to carry out their operations. He termed the position of the Government troops around Qandahar airport as strong. However, he expressed confidence that the Mujahideen will achieve their goal. Further elaborating, he said, that his Defence Ministry will be the central authority responsible for all military activities to be launched under its directives. Mr. Mohammadi added that similar strategy is being evolved for coordinated attacks on other cities of Afghanistan.

Meanwhile, a well informed western diplomat says that a meeting in Qandahar had been convened to remove the anxiety prevailing among certain Mujahideen commanders created as a result of fighting in Jalalabad. After the Soviet troops withdrawal from Afghanistan everyone believed that Jalalabad would be captured by the Mujahideen within a few days. However, the fighting in Jalalabad is continuing without any positive result. Now the critics say that the attack was not carried out in a coordinated and organised manner and that the strategy for the

attack was ineffective. That is why, they say, no positive results could be achieved. Now the commanders in Qandahar would not take the risk of failure. They do not want to expose themselves too much to indiscriminate air raids of the Kabul air force which caused the halting of the Mujahideen onslaught on Jalalabad. Observers are of the view that the decision of the Interim Government to keep military activities under central command is aimed at maintaining cooperation among leaders of the Seven-Party Afghan Opposition Alliance based in Pakistan. The Mujahideen are already holding positions in Khoshab, Qazi Karez, Mohallah Abdullah Karez, Saloo Karez, Mian Joi and Beh Ghulaman areas around Qandahar.

The Mujahideen sources say about 350 Mujahideen started shelling the Qandahar airport last week. The Mujahideen say eleven of their men were martyred and more than 30 wounded in retaliatory air raids by the Kabul Government. Quoting informers present at the airport, the Mujahideen say that 75 Government troops were killed in their shelling (Radio Report—Urdu: April 26, 1989).

The Afghan Mujahideen are reported to have launched a big attack on the country's second biggest city, Qandahar (News—Urdu: April 27, 1989).

AIR: An Afghan Foreign Ministry spokesman has said that more than 50 rebels were killed and scores injured when Government troops destroyed two rebel camps in Qandahar province (April 5, 1989).

Afghan rebels have launched new attacks on Qandahar, Sarubi and some other areas, despite Kabul Government announcement of a unilateral ceasefire during the holy month of Ramadhan (April 7, 1989).

Radio Kabul: Four Pakistan-backed terrorists were killed and seven others wounded by the Afghan armed forces in different parts of Qandahar province. A vehicle of the enemy loaded with weapons was burnt. The Afghan armed forces also seized one hundred and ten mortar shells and twenty-one mines (April 5, 1989).

Military correspondent of Bakhtar news agency has reported that serious clashes have taken place between the armed groups of the Wahabi Sayyaf and Gulbadin's band in Arghandab Uoleswali of Qandahar province recently. As a result of these clashes 34 persons from both the hostile groups were killed and eight others injured (News—Pushto: April 12, 1989).

Similarly as a result of the successful operations of the Armed Forces in Torkotal and Takhta-Pul areas in Qandahar province yesterday, 17 armed extremists were killed and twenty-five others were injured (News—Pushto: April 16, 1989).

The armed extremists started attacking different areas in Daman

Uoleswali of Qandahar province. But their attacks were foiled and repulsed by the Armed Forces stationed there. In these operations, 250 personnel of the enemy including Pakistani militiamen, were killed and more than 300 others injured (April 25, 1989).

According to another report the armed extremist groups supported by Pakistan, using heavy weapons fired at some residential areas of Qandahar and Herat cities yesterday. In Qandahar as a result of the enemy's firing one person was martyred and another injured. However, as a result of the successful operations of the Armed Forces 18 extremists were killed and 27 others were injured (April 28, 1989).

Radio Moscow: Reports from Kabul say the Afghan Highest Military Command has declared a ceasefire in connection with the beginning of Ramadhan, the Islamic holy month of fasting.

A statement published in Kabul said the Afghans are confident in the capability and reliability of their troops. It points out if the armed opposition does not observe the ceasefire, Afghan Government troops would retaliate. The Afghan Highest Military Command called on the command of the opposition groups to use the ceasefire for peace talks with the authorities.

Meanwhile, the French news agency reports, the so-called President of the Transitional Afghan Government Mujaddadi has rejected the proposal of the ceasefire.

Reports from Kabul say, there has been a special state security trial, reviewing the case of two Pakistani military intelligence officers, Muhammad Ashraf and Muhammad Afzal. Both men were arrested last month, in the southern province of Qandahar. Muhammad Afzal was collecting information about strongholds and Government troops bases and tried to bribe Afghan officers to defect to the opposition. Muhammad Ashraf on top of intelligence activity was to train members of Abdul Haleem's rebel units from the Islamic Union for the Liberation of Afghanistan to use heavy weapons and to carry out offensive operations. During the trial the two agents told about members of secret services and foreign advisors infiltrating into Afghanistan through the Pakistani border, as well as about the secret warfare by the Pakistani Secret Services against Afghanistan (Focus on Asia and the Pacific—English: April 7, 1989).

A Pakistani terrorist was arrested in Qandahar province. He had entered Afghanistan with the support of an Afghan terrorist group.

Correspondent of TASS news agency met and held talks with the man, Khobas Khan (ph). He said that he was sent to Qandahar province in order to lay mines on roads to help in besieging the city of Qandahar (News—Pushto: April 19, 1989).

The Mujahideen rebels in Afghanistan have shelled with rockets a major convoy carrying journalists from the Soviet Union, United States, France and Federal Germany. The convoy was on its way from Qandahar. Fortunately there were no casualties (News—English: April 19, 1989).

Two hundred and fifteen terrorists were killed and about 300 others injured when the Afghan security forces responded to the firing of the rebels in Daman Uoleswali of Qandahar province (April 26, 1989).

Zabul

Mujahideen sources: On April 27: Mujahideen destroyed an 'important' bridge on the highway between Qandahar and Kalat Ghilzai. After dynamiting the bridge in the vicity of Shahra-e-Safa, the Mujahideen hit a military convoy near Jaldak. Two tanks were destroyed by rockets.

Ghazni

Mujahideen sources: On April 7: Kabul regime forces with the help of militias flown in by helicopters from the neighbouring provinces of Bamiyan and Uruzgan attacked and regained possession of two villages north of Ghazni city. The villages were: Khunja Hakim Bala and Khuja Hakim Payan. This must have been quite a sizeable operation. The regime used atleast 20 helicopters to carry the militias to the two villages lying close to each other. Four houses were destroyed during this operation. Mujahideen did not mention their own losses, but claimed having killed more than 60 members of the invading militia troops.

On the same day, 13 Kabuli troops were killed during a Mujahideen attack on the Ghazni Airport. One Mujahid was killed and 7 injured in this area.

On April 16: Mujahideen destroyed 2 tanks while Kabul regime forces were trying to set up new security posts south-west of Ghazni city.

On April 18: Five regime soldiers, including an officer, surrendered to the Mujahideen near Ghazni city.

On April 20: Mujahideen launched coordinated attacks on Kabul regime troops and establishments in and around Ghazni city.

VIRA: The Mujahideen attacked Kabul regime troops in Ghazni province and captured five trucks carrying arms and ammunition. According to reports, a number of Kabul regime troops were killed and many wounded in the fighting (News—Persian: April 7, 1989).

Radio Zahidan: Forty school boys were killed when a surface-to-surface missile landed at their school in Ghazni city. The Kabul regime

fired three Scud missiles at Ghazni on April 16. One of them fell at residential areas and the school killing 40 children. Two other missiles landed outside the city (News—Urdu: April 28, 1989).

BBC: We have talked to Ahmad Masood, an independent journalist who has recently returned to Peshawar after visiting Paktia and Ghazni provinces.

Ahmad Masood: The Ghazni city is under the complete siege of the Mujahideen. The Mujahideen have blocked all the roads leading to it. But the Mujahideen do not prevent the supply of food commodities to the city because most of their families are living in the city and have contacts with the Mujahideen.

Compere: Would Mujahideen capture Ghazni garrison easily?

Ahmad Masood: If the Mujahideen are united, the seizure of Ghazni garrison would not be a difficult task. But if they are not, then, the task will be very difficult for them (April 25, 1989).

Radio Kabul: In Ghazni province, nine civilians and two soldiers were killed and 48 civilians were injured when the terrorists shelled residential areas and security posts. In retaliation, the armed forces killed nine terrorists and injured a number of others (April 9, 1989).

In successful operations of the armed forces in the outskirts of Ghazni city twelve members of Gulbadin and Sayyaf groups and ten others including a ring-leader of the group, Hafeezullah, were injured (April 14, 1989).

Kabul Times: Reports add that eleven compatriots including three children and two personnel of the security forces were martyred and 54 others including six servicemen of the security forces injured when Pakistani militarists' backed armed extremists fired 72 reactive and 105 mortar shells on the residential areas and security posts in Ghazni city. Similarly, nine extremists were killed and a dozen others injured when the armed forces inflicted heavy blows on the enemy in the said city (KT April 19, 1989).

Paktika

Nil report of fighting from all sources, presumably because of non-presence of Kabul regime forces in Paktika province.

Paktiya

Mujahideen sources: On April 7: Mujahideen carried out attacks on Khwan Ghoundi, Seena Khwa security posts and Zazaly. More than 50 regime soldiers were captured along with a large quantity of arms and ammunition.

On April 9: Mujahideen fired rockets on Khost airfield. A transport

aircraft was hit. On the same day, the Mujahideen attacked and damaged a security post at Daragai.

On April 12 and 13: Mujahideen attacked troops in Matun. One security post was captured.

On April 19: Mujahideen blasted an ammunition depot in Gardez city by scoring a direct rocket hit on it. Gardez is currently under siege of the Mujahideen.

On April 20: Mujahideen attacked regime troops and installations in Aqubi sub-district, north of Khost city.

On April 21: Soviet-made aircraft bombarded Mujahideen in Bari area, south of Khost city.

On April 25 and 26: Mujahideen clash with Kabul regime troops in the vicinity of Matun. The regime lost more than 50 men as killed and wounded alongwith a variety of arms and ammunition. Eight regime soldiers defected to Mujahideen.

VIRA: The Mujahideen in an operation in Ali-Shang area of Paktiya province captured four security posts of the Kabul regime recently. In this operation, seventy Militiamen of the Kabul regime were killed and 47 surrendered themselves to the Muslim Mujahideen (News—Pushto: April 12, 1989).

Radio Tehran: The Mujahideen captured several security posts of the Kabul regime troops in Paktiya province since last Monday and killed 45 troops of communist Government besides destroying eight tanks, one transport vehicle and an arms depot.

According to news agency reports the Mujahideen shot down two fighter aircraft of Kabul regime in Paktiya and Jalalabad on Tuesday (News—Pushto: April 13, 1989).

The Kabul regime fighter aircraft bombarded an area in Paktiya near the Pak-Afghan border yesterday. According to the Central News Unit, eleven Afghan refugees were martyred and nineteen others injured as a result of this brutal bombardment. The Afghan refugees were attacked when they were going to Parachinar city of Pakistan to seek refuge there (News—Pushto: April 21, 1989).

BBC: A fierce battle is said to be going on around the southern city of Khost with other Government strongholds also coming under Mujahideen bombardment (News—English: April 11, 1989).

VOA: Afghan rebel Mujahideen fighters are reported to have widened their war on Kabul Government forces on Sunday. News reports say the Mujahideen have attacked the south-eastern city of Khost with rockets, artillery and other weapons. A rebel news agency in Pakistan said the rebels have captured three military posts near Khost (News—English: April 10, 1989).

The Kabul regime hit a Mujahideen position with a Scud missile near Khost on Hamal 31 (April 20) killing two Mujahideen and injuring four others (April 24, 1989).

AIR: Heavy fighting has been reported around the Afghan town of Khost even as Government claimed to have scored a big victory by clearing the rebel blockade on the Kabul-Jalalabad highway.

A Government spokesman in Kabul said a pitched battle was raging outside the Khost town, near the Pakistan border. The rebels had launched a new attack on the city late last night. The Afghan Air Force jets flew a number of sorties to break up rebel concentrations (April 11, 1989).

Radio Kabul: The enemy fired rockets on Khost Loya Uoleswali and outskirts of Paktiya and Herat provinces but no one was killed or injured. As a result of retaliatory attacks by the Afghan armed forces, 12 Pakistan-backed extremists including their commander Abdul Samad were killed in Shin Dand Uoleswali. Similarly, in the vicinity of Sarubi Uoleswali, twenty-eight extremists were killed and seventeen others injured (April 5, 1989).

Two security troops were martyred and five others including women and children injured when the rebels attacked the Khost city. The rebels have not observed the ceasefire announced by the Afghan Government on the eve of Ramadhan today (News—Pushto: April 6, 1989).

The terrorists also attacked Khost Uoleswali and Gardez city of Paktiya province, killing three women and five children while a number of houses and shops were damaged (April 7, 1989).

Another report says that the terrorists and the Arab hirelings have launched an attack on the villages of Khost Uoleswali with the help of Pakistani artillery, being commanded by two Punjabi officers of the Pakistan Army, namely Mali Khan and Janbaz Shah. The Afghan security forces are courageously defending their positions and inflicting crushing blows on the enemy (April 9, 1989).

The Afghan security forces foiled the attack of the rebels in the Khost Uoleswali on 17 Hamel (April 6). The rebels numbered more than four thousand men and Pakistani militiamen were armed with armoured vehicles and tanks. The people of Khost helped the security forces of their motherland. About one hundred rebels were killed and one hundred and twenty-five terrorists including militiamen of Pakistan were injured. A huge quantity of arms was captured by the Afghan troops (News—Pushto: April 11, 1989).

According to another report, the joint enemy forces launched a new offensive twenty kilometres North West of the Khost city, but this

offensive was also repulsed by the heroic Armed Forces of the country. As a result of artillery and air strikes, eighty-one enemy personnel were killed and eighty-two others including fourteen Saudi advisors and thirteen Pakistani militiamen were injured on Hamel 25 and 26 (April 14 and 15). According to the latest reports received from Khost, the Armed Forces in their retaliatory attacks have killed twenty-eight extremists and injured fifteen others today (April 17, 1989).

According to another report Pakistan's Punjabi Army and the armed Wahabis and extremists attacked the residential areas of Khost Loi Uoleswali with heavy weapons yesterday. As a result, two citizens were martyred. But due to the artillery and airstrike of the Armed Forces, twenty-seven personnel of the enemy were killed and eight others injured (April 19, 1989).

According to another report, as a result of the firing of five hundred shells of mortar guns at Gardez city two citizens were injured and one jeep of the Armed Forces was damaged. Due to the counter-attacks of the Armed Forces, twelve personnel of the joint enemy forces were killed and eighteen others injured. Similarly one truck and one tractor carrying arms and ammunition were destroyed. Military correspondent of Bakhtar news agency has reported from Khost that as a result of armed clashes between the Armed Forces of the country and the joint enemy forces, two personnel of the Armed Forces were injured and five personnel of the other side were killed and two others injured (April 20, 1989).

Another report from Khost says that the joint enemy forces which are organised and supervised by Pakistani military officers, yesterday attacked the residential areas of Khost with heavy arms. As a result, one child was martyred and one vehicle was destroyed. Due to the retaliatory shelling of the artillery, thirty-one personnel of the enemy including twelve Punjabi and Saudi Wahabi advisors were killed and fourteen others injured (April 30, 1989).

Ningarhar

Mujahideen sources: On April 1: Nine persons, mainly women and children, trekking down to Pakistani territory as refugees were killed in a mine-field laid by Kabul regime agents in Ahmad Dasht of Surkhrod district.

On April 2 and 3: Mujahideen and Kabul regime troops continued exchanging fire intermittently around Jalalabad city. A caravan of refugees going to Pakistan was attacked with 'chemical bombs' near village Khush Gunbad, Goshta sub-division.

On April 4: Mujahideen shot down a helicopter in Torghar area. A

military convoy proceeding towards Jalalabad from Kabul was attacked by Mujahideen near Tangi on Kabul-Jalalabad road. It was forced to turn back.

On the same day, some tanks (captured by Mujahideen in March) were seen advancing towards Jalalabad airport from the direction of Samarkhel, fuelling rumours that the Mujahideen too had mobilized an armoured wing.

On April 5: Mujahideen fire rockets on regime troops and installations in and around Jalalabad.

On April 6: Mujahideen shot down a MiG fighter aircraft in Kama district, north-east of Jalalabad.

On April 7: Mujahideen attacked military posts in Chano area on Kabul-Jalalabad highway. In successful ambush 4 tanks of a military convoy were destroyed between Mashallay and Zhiille.

A Soviet-made Scud missile hit Samarkhel cantonment area. Five Mujahideen were killed and 7 injured.

A Soviet-made aircraft shot down while it was flying over Jalalabad airport.

Yet another aircraft was shot down near Behsud.

On April 9: During a series of fierce battles, the Mujahideen capture 3 regime security posts south of Jalalabad. These posts were identified as Parkand, Lalmi and Lugari.

In another operations in the north of the city in Behsud area two prominent Mujahideen commanders from Kunar, Shakar Khan and Mohammad Sharif were killed. However, the Mujahideen were able to over-run 8 regime security posts and destroyed a large arms and ammunition depot.

On April 13: Mujahideen fired rockets on regime troop concentrations and military establishments in and around Jalalabad city. One of the targets was Bagh-e-Shahi which was being used as helipad.

On April 14: Mujahideen fired rockets on regime troops in Behsud and Banko areas. Atleast 2 tanks were destroyed near the security post at Banko.

On April 16: Mujahideen capture 7 Kabul regime security posts in Daronta area, west of Jalalabad city. A tank was destroyed in Chapparhar. Two military officers and 4 others belonging to the Jalalabad garrison defected to Mujahideen.

VIRA: An attempt by the Kabul regime troops to re-open the strategic Kabul-Jalalabad highway on Sunday last was foiled by the Afghan Mujahideen. The Kabul regime troops fled the scene and retreated to Sarubi. Quoting the Afghan Mujahideen, another report says 20,000 Afghan Mujahideen are preparing themselves to liberate Jalal-

abad city. Meanwhile, the Kabul regime troops are using chemical weapons in Khosh Gonbad area (News—Persian: April 4, 1989).

The Mujahideen shot down a helicopter of the Kabul regime on 3rd April. The sources reported that the Kabul regime troops attempted to send reinforcements to Jalalabad from Sarubi on Tuesday, but due to stiff resistance by the Afghan Mujahideen their attempt was foiled and the enemy was forced to retreat after suffering heavy casualties. The reports add that in the fighting, three tanks of the Kabul forces were destroyed and two militiamen were captured (April 7, 1989).

A source of the Muslim Mujahideen has reported that four generals of the Kabul puppet regime were killed recently during clashes with the Mujahideen in the battle for Jalalabad. They were identified as General Syed Masoom, Commander of the Khas Guard, Commander of the 11th Division of Samarkhel, General Fazal Ahmed, Commander of the first Division of Jalalabad, General Akhtar Gul and General Barakzai. Fighting between the Mujahideen and Kabul regime troops for Jalalabad has been continuing for the last five weeks (April 12, 1989).

Eight other security posts of the Najib regime have been liberated by the Afghan Mujahideen in the outskirts of Jalalabad and at least 30 enemy troops were killed and a large number were injured (April 29, 89).

Radio Tehran: Guerilla war is going on in the surroundings of Jalalabad city. There is a report about a joint Mujahideen force having been organized under the command of a former Afghan military officer. According to a report there are six thousand guerillas in this force and it is equipped with tanks. No report has so far been published about Mujahideen's strategy to change the guerilla war into an organized war. But, now this likelihood is turning into a reality that Mujahideen are making every possible effort to adopt an effective war strategy to achieve their military goals. The issue of organizing a joint Mujahideen force has been there all the time. Long and continued fighting for Jalalabad has now compelled the Mujahideen to take such a step. Another question is whether Afghan Mujahideen will be in a position to achieve their objectives through guerilla warfare against the regular Afghan Government troops. Meanwhile, the issue of changing guerilla war into an organized war has not been viewed as feasible by experts of Afghanistan affairs. These experts are aware of the potentialities of armour and air force on the side of the Government. These experts are of the view that Mujahideen's weak military strength should be reviewed because a regular war has its own rules and requirements. However, the main thing which is of great importance in the existing critical situation inside Afghanistan is that Mujahideen should continue their struggle against the Government troops to achieve success despite the fact that

it has been a lengthy process (Commentary—Urdu: April 6, 1989).

Mujahideen say that to avoid loss of civilian life, they have refrained from firing missiles on the Jalalabad city and thus delayed the liberation of the city (News—Urdu: April 9, 1989).

According to a report of Islamic Republic News Agency IRNA, the Afghan Mujahideen during an operation captured an electric power station five kilometres from Jalalabad city. Quoting the Afghan Mujahideen sources, the report says a security post in that area has also been captured by the Afghan Mujahideen. Similarly, seven security posts in the west of Jalalabad city were liberated by Afghan Mujahideen yesterday (April 12, 1989).

According to a Kabul regime spokesman a convoy of 236 trucks loaded with military equipment and foodstuffs, arrived in Jalalabad city on Sunday last. The city is besieged by the Afghan Mujahideen (April 12, 1989).

The Kabul regime troops have fired three Scud missiles on their own positions inadvertently in the area of Jalalabad. The report of the Central News Unit from Islamabad says that the missiles landed on the Government's security posts in the suburbs of Jalalabad and near the Television installations in that city. But, so far there has been no report about the losses (News—Pushto: April 19, 1989).

BBC: The Afghan Government says it believes that a big new offensive is being mounted by rebel forces with Pakistani help against the eastern city of Jalalabad. The city has been under siege of the guerillas since before the withdrawal of Soviet forces. From Kabul, a despatch by BBC correspondent:

A Foreign Ministry statement spoke of a very tense and critical situation faced by Government forces in Jalalabad and the surrounding province which has been under siege by Mujahideen guerillas for the past month. The difficulties facing those inside the city were emphasised when the Ministry described special measures being taken to give them support, including unprecedented supplies of blood and financial donations from all the areas controlled by Kabul, as well as more soldiers. A spokesman for the Army said that the Kabul Government believes that a renewed offensive is being built up against Jalalabad. He said there has been the heaviest artillery barrage on the city so far over the last two days. He said that armaments built up by Mujahideen along the Pakistan border had increased by forty per cent over the last month and now included more than sixty tanks and six and a half thousand soldiers. But the Government says that it is sending considerable reinforcement for the defence of Jalalabad, among them, over the last week, volunteer battalions from Kabul and other provinces. The Govern-

ment in Kabul continued to claim that Pakistanis and Saudi Arabians are involved in Mujahideen attacks on Jalalabad and that they were among those killed during the fighting. And the Foreign Ministry said again that the Mujahideen attack was as a result of pressure from Pakistan (Newsreel—English: April 3, 1989).

Reports from Jalalabad says that heavy bombing by the Afghan Air Force has again taken its toll in Mujahideen casualties. The low level bombing runs have taken place to the south and the south-east of the city which has been under siege now for nearly four weeks. Again the guerillas claimed that they have over-run atleast one Government position capturing three tanks and various other armoured vehicles. One report says that the Mujahideen are using some thirty tanks that they obtained when the garrison at the Afghan stronghold of Samarkhel surrendered in the first few days of the battle. It seems that the main thrust of the rebel attack is now concentrated on the outlying posts of the Afghan Army. Diplomats who have been watching the developments think that the guerillas have tightened their ring around the city (Newsreel—English: April 4, 1989).

According to Mujahideen reports, Afghan Government troops' efforts to break the siege of Jalalabad have been foiled. They say that fierce fighting is continuing on the highway linking Jalalabad with capital, Kabul. BBC correspondent, Phil Johnes reports from Islamabad that Mujahideen claim that twenty-two miles long portion of hilly highway linking Sarubi to the besieged city of Jalalabad is under their control. According to another Mujahideen group, the Afghan Army in a bid to re-open the highway carried out twelve attacks during the last fifteen days but met with failure. Guerillas claim that during this period 105 Afghan Government troops were killed and 265 were captured. Besides, the guerillas say they have destroyed 35 tanks and shot down three helicopters. So far as guerilla losses are concerned, they say that five guerillas were killed and fifteen were wounded. During the last fifteen days, Mujahideen's major achievement is that they have closed the highway used for sending huge quantities of arms and food to the city. The Mujahideen by closing the central airport have compelled the Kabul Government to supply essential commodities to Jalalabad by helicopters which, according to the Mujahideen, is totally insufficient for the survival of Kabul Government for a long time (Shabnama—Urdu: April 8, 1989).

Reports from Pakistan say that a long range Scud missile fired by Afghan Government troops hit a target in the Pakistani territory yesterday causing heavy losses in Torkham area close to Afghan border. Meanwhile, Radio Kabul says that the rebel forces continued shelling

eastern city of Jalalabad, killing at least nine civilians and one soldier over the last twenty-four hours. The rebel Afghan News Agency reports that some eighty Kabul troops were killed during the last three days' fighting in the area. According to the BBC Kabul-based correspondent the news could not be confirmed by independent source from Jalalabad where the rebel attacks have entered second month. However, it is believed Mujahideen's casualties are greater than the Government troops fighting from fortified trenches under air umbrella whereas the Mujahideen are operating from open positions (News—Urdu: April 8, 1989).

Soviet journalists who have just visited the eastern Afghan city of Jalalabad have been giving accounts of the extent of the havoc caused by Mujahideen guerillas who have been attacking it for more than a month. A Pravda correspondent said a rocket exploded in the city every second that he was there. The Afghan authorities say the guerillas have launched new rocket and artillery attacks on the towns of Khost and Ghazni, south of Kabul. The group of Soviet journalists, who have painted a fuller picture of the effects of the Mujahideen assault on Jalalabad, has just returned to Kabul after spending forty-eight hours in the besieged city.

Our Kabul correspondent has been studying what they had to say: Pravda's correspondent said that a rocket exploded in the city every second, day and night, while he was there. It was impossible for aircraft to land at the airport as there were rocket crators on every metre of the runway. He flew down in a helicopter and he had landed through a wall of fire. Hardly a building in the city remained undamaged and the Mujahideen guerillas were within a mile of the airport. The rockets being used, to judge by the unexploded ones' were small and primarily designed to cause injury by flying shrapnel. He said the hospitals were over-crowded and the rest of the population spent their time taking cover in silos. Normal life had effectively ended and food was scarce. There was no sugar, tea or bread, but meat was cheap and available, since animals were being slaughtered for lack of food for them. The correspondent said that those people who supported the guerillas had left the city, but those who remained, told him, it was now a question of their motherland, Afghanistan, or death. He said that the problem for the Afghan Government defenders of Jalalabad was that the airport and the road to Kabul were closed. The Afghan Government confirmed that there had been heavy attacks on twelve miles of the road today. Meanwhile, the Mujahideen had an open supply line from Pakistan, he said, down which they moved at night when the Government Air Force could not bomb (News-Desk—English: April 9, 1989).

The Security Council is to meet today, to consider the situation in

Afghanistan. On the other hand, the Afghan Government says that it has repulsed a Mujahideen attack on Jalalabad. The guerillas have started large-scale movement towards Khost and fighting is also going on in the vicinity of important cities of Ghazni, Herat and Qandahar. Cathy Evans of BBC's Eastern Service reviews the situation: The fact is that the Mujahideen are facing difficulties in their offensive against Jalalabad city which was the easiest target being close to the border. Diplomatic observers say that lack of coordination in Mujahideen moves, which was observed in the beginning of the attack more than a month ago, is still visible. It is now said that the Mujahideen are planning to capture other cities though informed sources say that their planning in this respect, is also not very good. Like in Qandahar and Ghazni, the Kabul regime says, fierce fighting is continuing in Khost also. The Mujahideen still hopeful to capture these cities through negotiations instead of military means. According to western diplomatic sources, small pamphlets which are called in Afghanistan 'Shabnama' are being distributed in Qandahar asking the citizens to shift to some safer places. Negotiations are continuing between the Shura of Qandahar and President of Mujahideen's Interim Regime, Prof. Mujaddadi in Quetta. In Ghazni, too, the Mujahideen are trying to persuade the citizens to leave the city before the start of fighting. Mujahideen commanders as well as military affairs analysts say that one day the city will certainly fall to Mujahideen (Jahan Numa—Urdu: April 11, 1989).

VOA: In Afghanistan, the intensity of the Jalalabad fighting is mostly on the highway which links this city with Kabul in the west. Here is VOA correspondent, Pol Frenchek with details: Mujahideen sources say their troops destroyed another important bridge at Mishali in the east of Sarubi town, half way on Kabul-Jalalabad highway. Afghan Government tried several times to send supplies and reinforcement to the besieged provincial capital of Jalalabad from Kabul but each time, they had to fight pitched battles with the Mujahideen. Therefore, at present the supplies are being sent by helicopters and it is said that the situation is also getting worse for helicopters. Recent reports indicate that planes land in Government controlled areas in the west of Jalalabad. The apprehensions that chemical weapons may be used in Afghan civil war strengthened Sunday when a doctor working for an aid agency reported that he is treating four members of Mujahideen troops who have been injured by a poisonous chemical substance. One of the injured is said to be in a critical condition. Dr. Abubakr of West German organisation, Union Aid for Afghan Refugees, treated these injured near Jalalabad. He said a low flying jet dropped a bomb which emitted thick white smoke and those affected by the smoke lost

eye-sight, started vomitting and their muscles stiffened. The doctor said he could not name the chemical substance used in the bomb. Meanwhile, Radio Kabul Monday repeated the statement of the Foreign Ministry accusing British Foreign Secretary, Sir Geoffrey Howe, of giving irresponsible statements which are creating hurdles in the way of establishment of peace in Afghanistan. The British Foreign Secretary visited the sub-continent last week. Talking to newsmen both in Pakistan and India, Sir Geoffrey Howe had reiterated British stand that it is in favour of democratically elected Government. And he had said that the present Afghan Government led by Dr. Najibullah does not enjoy support of the majority of the Afghan people (Radio Report—Urdu: April 4, 1989).

A spokesman of the Afghan Refugees Commissionerate in Peshawar has said that a large number of Afghans have migrated to Pakistan due to fierce fighting in Jalalabad since March 7. Another report says that a prominent Mujahideen Commander has been killed in Laghman province and Mujahideen have attacked a Kabul regime convoy on Kabul-Parwan Highway. VOA correspondent, Shah Mehmood Miankhel reports: A spokesman of the Afghan Refugees Commissionerate in Peshawar says that fifty-four thousand, nine hundred and two Afghans have so far migrated to Pakistan due to Jalalabad fighting since the 7th of March. The spokesman said that one camp for the new refugees has been set up in Peshawar while two others are being set up in Kohat. So far nineteen thousand, nine hundred and fifty refugees have been provided shelter in these three camps. The office of Hizb-e-Islami (Khalis Group) says that Mujahideen of his group attacked Chaprihar posts on Hamal 16 and one Mujahid was killed and another wounded in these attacks. Commander Abdul Ghafoor says that Kabul regime's helicopters landed in Jalalabad on Hamal 15 but it is not known whether these helicopters brought fresh troops or foodstuff for Government troops. The office of Hizb-e-Islami (Hikmatyar Group) says that a Commander of Government contingent, Muhammad Ibrahim alongwith seven militiamen and weapons surrendered to the Mujahideen in Surghar (ph) area on Hamal 9 (April 9, 1989).

VOG: A renowned Afghan Mujahideen commander has described Mujahideen's attack on Jalalabad as a mistake. In an interview to the French news agency AFP, commander Abdul Haq of moderate Mujahideen group, Hizb-e-Islami said that Afghan Mujahideen possess military hardware only for guerilla war while for capturing Jalalabad they need arms used in conventional war such as ground-to-air and anti-tank rockets. Commenting on possible attack on Kabul, Commander Abdul Haq said that at the moment, attack would not be carried out and

instead efforts would be made to cut off the capital from other parts of the country (News—Urdu: April 17, 1989).

Radio Jeddah: Afghan Mujahideen sources have reported that a Scud missile fired by the Afghanistan Government missed its target and instead hit Jalalabad city, which is under siege of Afghan Mujahideen. The missile caused heavy loss of life and property in Jalalabad. The sources reported that the Kabul regime forces fired the missile from a base in Kabul on Mujahideen positions but it missed the target and instead hit the thickly-populated area of Jalalabad (News—Urdu: April 11, 1989).

Radio Beijing: The battle for control of the strategic eastern Afghanistan city of Jalalabad is reported to have reached a stalemate. Neither side appears to have won a clear victory as Afghan resistance forces launched an offensive against the city twenty-six days ago. The resistance admitted recently that the two security posts which its forces had captured during the early days of the offensive have since been retaken by troops of the Kabul regime (News—English: April 1, 1989).

AIR: In Afghanistan, at least sixty-five civilians have been killed in a fresh bid by the rebels to capture Jalalabad. AFP quoting Radio Kabul says fifty-seven Indians residing in the city's traditional trading centre were among those killed.

Radio Kabul said about 15,000 artillery rounds were fired at residential sectors destroying houses, shops and a Mosque and a Gurdwara. It claimed that the troops were strongly defending the city's military bases and in their retaliatory strikes have killed 170 rebels. The Radio again charged Pakistan militia of aiding the rebels in their fighting (News—English: April 1, 1989).

In Afghanistan official sources claimed that over five hundred rebels were killed as the government forces went into counter-offensive in the besieged city of Jalalabad today. Government forces backed by tanks, armoured personnel carriers and air support pushed the rebels back upto six kilometres from Jalalabad airport. The sources said that the rebel offensive was mounted by about fourteen thousand men, Pakistani militiamen and advisors. Meanwhile, Radio Moscow announced today that rebels are chalking out plans for a large-scale offensive on Kabul, Jalalabad and some other Afghan cities. The Soviet television reported that the Afghan Government is fortifying the capital Kabul by digging trenches (News—English: April 2, 1989).

Reports from Kabul speak of fierce fighhting around Jalalabad following the latest rebel offensive on the eastern Afghan city. Government forces have stepped up counter-offensive against the three pronged attack launched by about twelve thousand rebels this morning.

Artillery shells are landing in the city every second and the airport remained closed (News—English: April 10, 1989).

In Afghanistan, the rebels are reported to be preparing for a fresh offensive on the capital, Kabul. A Soviet Foreign Ministry spokesman told newsmen that the rebels are continuing heavy shelling on the eastern city of Jalalabad, in an attempt to capture the city which was foiled by the government troops. Over three hundred rebels, three soldiers and five civilians were reported to have been killed in the fighting around Jalalabad yesterday. Heavy fighting is also continuing near the city of Khost (News—English: April 12, 1989).

There are reports of heavy fighting in Afghanistan between Government forces and rebels on the outskirts of Jalalabad and Khost town. The rebels claimed to have captured some out posts. Government sources in Kabul say Jalalabad city was being attacked by nearly twenty thousand rebels from four sides. They said the Government troops have beaten back the rebels from two sides after heavy straffing by its jets and gunships. Reports say the rebels pounded the Jalalabad city and its outskirts with over sixteen thousand artillery shells and rockets in counter-attacks by T-62 and T-72 Tanks near the airport region. But the government forces over-ran several rebel positions inflicting heavy casualties. The authorities said at least three hundred and fifty rebels have been killed and ninety-seven wounded. They put the civilian casualties at five killed and ten wounded. Rocket attacks on Kabul and convoys coming from the Salang Pass and in Herat, Qandahar and Ghazni have also been reported (News—English: April 12, 1989).

Radio Kabul: Quoting the sources of Afghan armed forces, Bakhtar news agency reports that the Government has received information that rebels are launching war activities against the Government forces inside Afghanistan particularly in Torkham area with the help of Pakistani troops. Armed forces have taken necessary measures due to active role of eleventh and eighteenth divisions of the Pakistan army in the rebels' attacks on Ningarhar province. The Government troops launched severe offensive on the enemy bases on March 28, in which more than two hundred people including commanders of the Mujahideen and Pakistani soldiers were killed and a number of others wounded. According to Voice of America and Western media, a number of hideouts of extremists were also destroyed in these operations. Another report says that the joint forces of the Afghan rebels and Pakistani forces fired fifteen thousand shells and rockets on Jalalabad city and its surrounding areas during the last forty-eight hours. Eleventh and Eighteenth divisions of the Pakistan army are actively taking part in this shelling. In this aggressive operation more than two thousand and five hundred

rockets were fired at the residential areas of Jalalabad, as a result of which sixty-five people lost their lives. Similarly, ninety-four others sustained injuries. Most of the dead and wounded were children and women. Besides, eight soldiers of the Afghan army were also killed and twenty-seven others wounded. A mosque, thirteen residential quarters and twenty-eight shops were destroyed. The rockets fired by Pakistanis hit Hindu religious places. A temple collapsed and fifty-seven Hindu worshippers were killed in this inhuman aggression. Afghan troops and civilian population of the Jalalabad city bravely defended the city and repulsed the enemy attacks. In retaliation, the Government troops killed 171 rebels and wounded seventy-seven others. In this operation the government troops destroyed an enemy convoy carrying weapons (News—Urdu: April 1, 1989).

The military correspondent of Bakhtar news agency has reported that the joint forces of the Punjabi and Saudi Wahabi mercenaries and the armed extremist groups affiliated with them continued their aggression on Chaparhar and Surkhrud fronts yesterday. Similarly, the 11th and 18th Divisions of Pakistan Army launched a missile attack on the security posts and the residential areas in the outskirts of Jalalabad city. About 1,500 missiles and rockets landed at Jalalabad city, as a result of which two citizens and three soldiers of the Afghan Armed Forces were martyred and five others injured. The military correspondent added that in the counter-attacks of the Afghan Armed Forces, 97 personnel of the joint forces of the enemy were killed and fifty-four others injured. The killed included one leader of the extremists, Janit Gul, five Pakistani militiamen and three Saudi Wahabi military soldiers (April 21, 1989).

Radio Moscow: Afghan Armed Opposition and Pakistan militiamen have not abandoned their attempts to capture Ningarhar provincial capital, Jalalabad. Our correspondent Alexander Skindarov reports from Kabul that Afghan extremists have been launching fiercest attacks on Government troops in Jalalabad under the supervision of 11th and 18th Divisions of the Pakistan Army since March 6, but without any success from military point of view. The correspondent adds that he was told in the Afghan Foreign Ministry that armed opposition has been suffering heavy losses in counter-attacks of the Government troops. However, rebels have not abandoned their attempts despite killing and wounding of hundreds of people every day. In fact rebels are under great pressure from Pakistani troops and are compelled to continue the war. It seems that someone in Islamabad is unhappy with the rebels who had pledged the occupation of Jalalabad by April 7. Talking to our correspondent, a spokesman of the Afghan Defence Ministry said

that an enemy group of twenty-five thousand persons is massed for war activities. The group includes nearly six thousand Pakistani militiamen and one hundred and sixty-five soldiers. Like in the past, advisors of some Arab countries are taking part in the war activities in Afghanistan. Recently six more dead bodies of Arab advisors were found in the battlefields. Concluding, the correspondent says that though the situation in Jalalabad is still critical, yet in view of the successful operations of the Government troops, it is hoped that Government troops will defend the city which has become a symbol of resistance for all Afghan people (Sada-e-Imroz—Urdu: April 5, 1989).

Afghan regular army and air force killed more than one hundred rebels as they beat off an opposition attack on Jalalabad on Sunday. A government spokesman has announced in Kabul that there was a Saudi military advisor among the killed. Pakistani militiamen have also been fighting on the opposition side (News—English: April 11, 1989).

Reports from Afghanistan says that five inhabitants of Jalalabad city and three soldiers of the Afghan security forces were killed and nine others injured when the armed opposition groups attacked the residential areas of Jalalabad city with tanks and armoured vehicles during the last twenty-four hours.

Reports say that in retaliation, the Afghan security forces shelled the hideouts of the rebels as a result of which three hundred and eighteen terrorists were killed and one hundred and fifty-seven including three Saudi advisors and two Pakistani nationals injured. A large number of arms of the rebels were also destroyed.

A spokesman of the Afghan Foreign Ministry has reported that nineteen civilians were killed and fifteen others injured when the armed opposition groups attacked Jalalabad city. However, Afghan security forces have repulsed the rebel attack.

According to the spokesman, two hundred and seventy rebels have been killed during the past twenty-four hours in Jalalabad (News—Pushto: April 13, 1989).

In Afghanistan a convoy of trucks with military and food supplies from Kabul has arrived in Jalalabad which has been besieged by the irreconcilable opposition units. Reporting this a government spokesman noted that the strategic highway between Kabul and Jalalabad has been re-opened for traffic (News—English: April 17, 1989).

The armed opposition groups once again hit the security posts and villages with missiles near the Jalalabad city as a result of which one soldier was killed and six civilians were wounded (News—Pushto: April 26, 1989).

In Jalalabad, attacks of the terrorists are still continuing in which

Pakistani militia and the so-called Arab volunteers are also taking part. The city was subjected to a number of rockets, mortars and heavy gun shells yesterday. However, these attacks were foiled by the Afghan armed forces. They have also foiled the attempts of the armed opponents to block the Jalalabad-Sarubi road (News—Pushto: April 29, 89).

Kunar

Mujahideen sources: On March 31: Soviet-made fighter planes of Kabul regime bombed villages located between Sarkani and Asadabad, the headquarters of liberated Kunar Valley. Two Afghan civilians were killed and seven others injured. The planes also tried to hit the bridge at Nauabad. The bridge is located on the road connecting Asadabad and Jalalabad.

Nooristan

Nil report, indicating non-presence of Kabul regime in the province.

Provinces Bordering Soviet Union

Badakhshan (also bordering Pakistan)

Mujahideen sources: On April 2: Mujahideen captured a security post near Faizabad, provincial headquarters. Mujahideen fired rockets on Faizabad airport.

On April 8: Soviet-made aircraft heavily bombarded the liberated area of Shehr-e-Bazurg. More than 150 persons, including Mujahideen were 'martyred or injured'.

Mujahideen sources indicated that the aircraft had flown out from the Soviet territory and attacked among others two townships of Kot Barias and Shangar Aab.

VOA: Habibullah Gardezi is a photographer and correspondent of the Peshawar-based Afghan Information Centre. He has recently returned to Peshawar after visiting a number of Afghan provinces. VOA Pushto Service correspondent interviewed him in Peshawar:

Habibullah Gardezi said that he spent six months inside Afghanistan visiting Badakhshan, Takhar, Kunduz and Baghlan. He said that the morale of the Mujahideen in Badakhshan was very high. They are of the belief that they would definitely overthrow Najibullah regime and would form an Islamic government in Afghanistan. Regarding situation in Badakhshan, Habibullah said that the majority of Uleswalis and centres in the province have been liberated. Kabul regime troops are stationed only in Faizabad, the provincial capital of Badakhshan province. He added that the people are cultivating their fields and are not facing serious shortage of food. Habibullah said that Mujahideen in Badakhshan province are united and the local people are cooperating with them (April 19, 1989).

Radio Kabul: In an ambush in Faizabad city of Badakhshan province, the security forces have killed ten terrorists and injured eleven others. One terrorist was captured alongwith four machineguns (April 2, 1989).

One hundred and fifty terrorists including two leaders of the Jamiat party in Darbas Uoleswali of Badakhshan province were killed. Two members of the security forces were also injured in these operations. Fifty-one more terrorists including their three ring-leaders and fifty-three others were injured in the Sizma Kala area (April 6, 1989).

Takhar

VOA: Regarding situation in Takhar province, Habibullah said that in no part of the province are Kabul regime troops now stationed. He said that even the centre of Takhar province is in the control of the Mujahideen and the province is completely liberated. He said that the standard of living of the people of Taluqan is higher than those in many other parts and such essential items as cooking ghee, oil, sugar, salt and tea are available to them on less stringent terms (April 10, 1989).

Radio Kabul: In Takhar province, 120 terrorists have been killed and 50 others injured by the security forces. Similarly the security forces have captured 66 terrorists belonging to Jamiat band and captured a huge quantity of arms from them (April 7, 1989).

Kunduz

Mujahideen sources: On April 1: Kabul regime forces launched a massive attack on Mujahideen positions in Dobandi area between Kunduz city and Chardara district. The invaders were forced to pull back after losing more than 30 men.

VOA: Habibullah also spoke about the situation in Kunduz province. He said that Kabul regime troops are present only in the centre of Kunduz province, and other areas and Uleswalis are in the control of the Mujahideen (Commentary—Pushto: April 10, 1989).

Radio Kabul: Eleven extremists were killed and four others injured in the province of Kunduz and their several arms dumps were seized (News—Urdu: April 2, 1989).

Baghlan

Mujahideen sources: On March 27: Mujahideen attacked Kabul

regime troops at Haji Darwish, between Pul-e-Khumri and Baghlan city. One oil tanker and 3 other vehicles were hit.

On March 31: Mujahideen attack security posts in and around Pul-e-Khumri.

On April 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5: Mujahideen conduct a series of hit and run attacks on Kabul regime security posts and troops over a wide area around Pul-e-Khumri. A large number of soldiers were killed and wounded. A number of others defected to Mujahideen.

On April 12: Mujahideen ambush regime troops (somewhere in Baghlan province). Atleast 3 vehicles were destroyed. Soviet-made warplanes bombarded villages around Pul-e-Khumri.

On April 25 and 26: Mujahideen attack transport along the Salang highway near Pul-e-Khumri. Atleast 2 vehicles were hit.

Radio Kabul: The heroic Afghan Armed Forces during successful operations against the extremists in Baghlan city yesterday killed 24 extremists. The report adds that the criminal extremists martyred the Imam of the Jamia Mosque of the Sugar Company during the Taraveh prayers (News—Pushto: April 20, 1989).

According to another report during successful operations of the armed forces five extremists were arrested alongwith their arms in old Baghlan city (News—Pushto: April 29, 1989).

Samangan

Radio Kabul: The terrorists shelled residential areas in Herat and Samangan provinces in which two people were killed and two others injured. The security forces killed five terrorists and arrested ten others alongwith their arms in Samangan province (News—Pushto: April 9, 89).

Balkh

VIRA: In attacks on Kabul regime security posts in Daulatabad, Balkh province, the Afghan Mujahideen demolished a security post and captured an officer and a soldier. According to the report the Afghan Mujahideen seized a rocket launcher, three heavy machineguns, one light machinegun, two wireless sets, twenty klashinkoves, one telescope and a huge quantity of other military hardware (April 8, 1989).

A report from Balkh province says the Mujahideen recently attacked a security post of the Kabul regime in Charbolak, killing eight Kabuli troops and causing heavy damage to the security post. One Mujahid was martyred and two others injured (April 28, 1989).

Radio Tehran: A commander of the Afghan Mujahideen announced in Peshawar yesterday that a five member unit of the 18th Brigade deployed at Mazar-e-Sharif surrendered to the Mujahideen last week

(April 4, 1989).

Radio Kabul: Another report says that a forty-member armed group of former opponents has joined the government side in Baba Yusuf village of Balkh province while another ten-member group joined the process of national reconciliation in Mazar-e-Sharif yesterday (April 4, 1989).

Jozjan

Mujahideen sources: On March 24: Four Kabul regime soldiers were killed when Mujahideen attacked a security post at Bala-Hisar, Aqcha sub-division. A number of houses were also destroyed during the fighting.

Sar-e-Pul

Kabul Times: According to another report twenty assorted weapons were captured in another operation carried out by the armed forces in Suzmaqala sub-district, Sar-e-Pul province (April 3, 1989).

Over five hundred of our compatriots, living in mountains and deserts, have returned to their homes in Sozmaqala sub-district of Sar-e-Pul province. They were warmly welcomed and returned to their homes after receiving necessary assistance (April 6, 1989).

Faryab

Mujahideen sources: On April 7: Mujahideen attack security post near Maimana, the provincial capital. Sixteen militiamen were believed to have been killed. Mujahideen seized 30 guns and some ammunition. Mujahideen fired rockets on Maimana airport.

On April 10: Mujahideen shot down a helicopter near Maimana.

On April 12: Mujahideen 'ambush' troops near Maimana city. Atleast one vehicle was hit.

Radio Kabul: Twenty-one terrorists were killed and 30 others injured by the security forces in Maimana city while three civilians were martyred when the extremists shelled that city with heavy arms (April 4, 1989).

The terrorists have also shelled security posts and the residential areas in Faryab province. However, no loss of life was reported (News—Pushto: April 8, 1989).

In Maimana city one woman was martyred and five children injured while in Herat one aged man was martyred and some children were injured due to the shelling of these cities by the armed terrorists (April 10, 1989).

Badghis

Mujahideen sources: On April 13: More than 150 officers and men belonging to the Qala-i-Nau garrison, near the Soviet border defected to the Mujahideen.

VIRA: The Afghan Mujahideen have once again liberated Kadis sub-division of Badghis province and all the troops deployed in that sub-division joined the ranks of Afghan Mujahideen alongwith their arms and ammunition (News—Persian: April 20, 1989).

VOG: Afghan resistance sources say that some one hundred and fifty Kabul troops have defected to Mujahideen in the north western Afghan province of Badghis. They also claim that the commander of the government troops deployed in the provincial headquarters, Qila-i-Nau, has established contact with the Mujahideen (News—Urdu: April 20, 1989).

Provinces Bordering Iran

Herat (also bordering Soviet Union)

Mujahideen sources: On April 6: A battalion of about 300 militiamen of the Kabul army stationed at Ghoryan defects to the Mujahideen. They brought with them a large quantity of heavy and light weapons as well as trucks and motorcycles.

Soviet-made Kabul regime aircraft bombard villages in Pashtoon Zarghoon and Obay districts. These aircraft were supposed to have taken off from Shindand as well as from bases inside the Soviet Union. They operated from very high altitudes.

On April 7: Mujahideen ambush a military convoy on Herat-Torghundi road. An APC and two other vehicles were blasted. Mujahideen seized a quantity of arms and ammunition.

On April 9: Mujahideen attacked a security post between Herat city and Herat airport. Eleven soldiers were killed and an officer captured.

On April 25: Mujahideen conduct hit-and-run operations in and around Herat city, killing and wounding a number of soldiers and capturing 4 "officers".

VIRA: On 24th of Hoot 1387 (S.H.) i.e. 15th March, on the anniversary of uprising in Herat, the Afghan Mujahideen carried out operations against the 17th Division of Kabul regime in Gozara sub-division inflicting heavy losses in men and material to the Kabul regime troops. In these operations, the Mujahideen used heavy and light weapons. Six tanks and two armoured personnel carriers were destroyed while a huge quantity of arms and other military hardware were set on fire.

The report adds that in the operation 200 Kabul regime troops

were killed and more than 250 others injured.

The report says that the Kabul regime forces subjected Khwaja Shahabuddin area, an outskirt of Herat, to heavy shelling as a result of which six persons were martyred and 11 others injured (News—Persian: April 3, 1989).

Report from Herat province says the Afghan Mujahideen of Gozara sub-division launched an attack on the Kabul regime troops on Kabul-Herat highway as a result of which one armoured personnel carrier was destroyed.

In the attack six klashinkovs were also seized by the Mujahideen while one Mujahid was martyred and three others injured.

Similarly, the Afghan Mujahideen attacked the Kabul troops on Herat-Qandahar highway as a result of which 20 Kabul regime troops were killed and 24 injured.

The report adds that in the battle, the Kabul regime troops carried out heavy shelling on the Mujahideen (News—Persian: April 8, 1989).

In Mujahideen attacks on security posts of the Communist regime near Shindand airbase during the last fortnight a number of security posts were eliminated by the Afghan Mujahideen. In the fighting 60 Kabul regime troops were killed and a large number of others injured and a huge quantity of arms and ammunition and other military hardware seized by the Mujahideen. On the other hand, two Mujahideen were martyred and seven injured.

On Herat-Islam Qala highway a military vehicle of the Kabul regime was destroyed.

In Ghorat-e-Zandajan area a security post of Kabul regime was destroyed and four troops of the enemy killed or injured (April 13, 89).

The Afghan Mujahideen launched an attack on a convoy of Kabul regime troops which was on way from Torghundi to Herat city on the 11th of April.

In the attack eight armoured personnel carriers and two military vehicles were destroyed.

In the same attack eight Mujahideen were martyred or injured.

The Afghan Mujahideen attacked a Kabul regime unit between Pul-e-Pashtoon and Herat airport. 11 Kabul regime troops were made captive (News—Persian: April 15, 1989).

The Afghan Mujahideen attacked the positions of the Kabul regime troops in Dashan area of Herat province on 5th, 6th and 7th of Hamal, as a result of which five tanks and armoured personnel carriers were destroyed.

Reports say that countering the Mujahideen operations, the Kabul regime troops subjected their positions to heavy aerial and ground

shelling in Herat and its suburbs (News—Pushto: April 21, 1989).

Radio Tehran: Afghan Muslim revolutionaries destroyed 15 tanks killing nearly 100 soldiers in Herat province. Thirty Afghan Government personnel were captured. The Mujahideen also captured a large quantity of arms and ammunition during the operation.

During another operation around Shindand airbase last week, Afghan Mujahideen killed 40 Kabul regime troops. Sixty others joined the Mujahideen (April 10, 1989).

A spokesman of the Mujahideen has said that 800 troops defected to the Mujahideen in Herat province. This is the second major group of Kabul regime troops which joined the Mujahideen since the Mujahideen captured the Samarkhel garrison (News—Pushto: April 17, 1989).

The Afghan Mujahideen destroyed six tanks and armoured personnel carriers of the Kabul regime killing all the persons on board at Sar Jungle in Herat province on Sunday last.

Quoting Mujahideen sources, the IRNA reports that countering the Mujahideen operations the Kabul regime troops subjected their positions to heavy aerial and ground shelling in Herat and its outskirts (April 18, 1989).

VOA: The sources of Jamiat-e-Islami in Quetta said that the well-known, Mujahideen commander in Herat province, Ismail Khan, about whom Soviet sources had said that he had joined the Kabul regime, attacked a convoy of military hardware coming from Soviet Union, near Herat city on the ninof this month. Eight tanks and two military trucks were destroyed in the attack and all the people on board and the hardware loaded on these vehicles, were set ablaze. However, the Mujahideen also lost six men while three others sustained injuries (Radio Report—Urdu: April 15, 1989).

AIR: In Afghanistan, nearly 280 people were killed in fighting between the rebels and the government forces in four provinces yesterday.

An Afghan Foreign Ministry spokesman said at least two hundred and sixty-five people died and a hundred and twenty-three were injured in Jalalabad, Herat, Khost and Qandahar (News—English: April 24, 89).

Radio Kabul: Different kinds of arms were recovered from the terrorists in an armed clash between the armed opposition groups. Ten members of the Jamiat-e-Islami were killed in the Pakhtoon Zarghoon Uoleswali of Herat province (April 6, 1989).

As a result of the mopping-up operations of the Afghan Armed Forces in Injeel and Shindand Uoleswalis of Herat province, seven members of the armed groups supported by Pakistan were killed and three others were injured. In these operations two Afghan Militiamen were martyred (April 14, 1989).

As a result of heavy shelling of the enemy on Herat city yesterday, two persons including a child were killed and six others were injured (April 25, 1989).

Farah

Mujahideen sources: On April 6: Mujahideen ambush a military convoy on the highway connecting Herat with Qandahar near Bahar. A number of vehicles were hit. Mujahideen captured some weapons.

On April 10: Mujahideen shot down a Soviet-made helicopter in Dara Koh Sufaid. The helicopter was hit with a missile.

A situationer prepared by AIC stated:

All the districts of Farah have been liberated. Only the provincial capital is under the control of Kabul regime. Farah city is surrounded by a belt of military posts extending from 2 km to 15 km from the city. The road linking Farah with the main Qandahar-Herat highway is defended by Kabul regime posts.

All other districts are under Mujahideen administration, although the regime is trying to establish militia posts to regain some influence.

The agricultural situation in the province is very bad and food is scarce and expensive. The regime is endeavouring to send food supplies to Farah through some traders from Shindand but so far they have not succeeded and as a result the people in Farah are facing great difficulties.

Differences among the Mujahideen in the province are negligible.

Interestingly, some members of the Iranian Communist party called the 'Todeh', are manning some regime military posts in Farah.

VIRA: Afghan news agency reported that the Afghan Mujahideen have shot down a Kabul regime helicopter in Koh-e-Sufaid area, Farah province, killing all the persons on board (April 17, 1989).

The Afghan Mujahideen launched attacks on a number of military posts of the Kabul troops five km south of Farah, destroying a number of them (April 17, 1989).

Central Afghanistan

Bamiyan

Nil Report.

Ghor

Nil Report.

Uruzgan

Mujahideen sources: On March 27: Mujahideen liberated Deh

Raud district after a 4 month siege. About 1,300 militiamen surrendered to Mujahideen. More than 1,000 light weapons, 20 heavy machineguns, 3 radio sets, 6 armoured cars, 10 trucks, 5 mortars and 5 ZPU anti-aircraft guns were handed over to the Mujahideen.

VIRA: Latest reports from Deh Raud sub-division of Uruzgan province say, after the liberation of that sub-division the Mujahideen are presently putting pressure on Tarinkot, the centre of Uruzgan province.

During the course of this operation, 1,300 militiamen and troops surrendered to the Mujahideen. They are currently participating in the Jehad on the side of Mujahideen.

The reports add that during the fighting for that sub-division, 80 supporters of the Kabul regime were killed and 1,500 klashinkovs, 60 mortars, 3 armoured personnel carriers, 4 tanks, 5 rockets, 6 heavy machineguns, and 27 arms of various types were seized by the Afghan Mujahideen (News—Persian: April 1, 1989).

Kabul and Adjacent Provinces

Kabul

Mujahideen sources: On April 1: Thirty-five Kabul regime soldiers, including an officer, belonging to a security post in Khairkhana surrendered to Mujahideen. From this post in the Kabul security belt the regime forces had been directing heavy weapons' fire on Mujahideen in Shakardara and other Shomali areas.

On April 2: Mujahideen shot down a MI-24 helicopter near Khwaja Rawash along the Kabul-Jalalabad road.

On April 5 and 6: Kabul regime troops attacked Mujahideen positions in Farmankhel area on the Kabul-Jalalabad road. The attack was repulsed and regime troops forced to pull back after losing atleast 2 tanks and many soldiers.

On April 7: Mujahideen fired rockets on Kabul airport and selected targets of military significance in Kabul.

On April 10: A bomb exploded at the residence of a PDPA high official in Macrorayan, Kabul city, killing and wounding 4 persons.

On April 11: Mujahideen waylay and capture 3 trucks carrying arms and ammunition for the regime forces near Qarabagh. Twenty soldiers were taken prisoner by the Mujahideen.

On April 14: Mujahideen fired rockets at security posts in Bandghazi and Kharoti areas.

On April 15: Mujahideen fired rockets and missiles on Kabul airport.

On April 18: Mujahideen and Kabul regime forces fight running

battles on Kabul-Jalalabad road.

On April 20: Mujahideen seize a large number of trucks near Qarabagh. Seven Mujahideen killed in the operations.

On April 22: Mujahideen capture some security posts in Abrishomi mountain overlooking the Kabul-Jalalabad road.

On April 23 and 24: Two determined attacks by the Kabul regime forces to re-open the Kabul-Jalalabad road repulsed. Soviet-made planes heavily bombard Mujahideen positions.

On the same day, Mujahideen attacked Kabul airport with rockets. An ammunition depot received a direct hit and exploded.

Radio Tehran: An Imam of a mosque, Abdul Rauf, has been arrested for criticising the Najib regime.

The Imam had criticised the crimes of Najibullah regime against the Mujahideen during his speech on first Friday of the holy month of Ramadhan in Wazir Akbar Khan mosque (News—Pushto: April 27, 89).

Reports from Afghanistan say, the Mujahideen have also shot down an aircraft of the Kabul regime which intended to bomb on positions of the Mujahideen in Paghman area. The Mujahideen have also liberated several security posts of the government troops in this area (News—Pushto: April 30, 1989).

BBC: There have been more rocket attacks on the Afghan capital, Kabul in which at least six people have been killed. In the past twenty-four hours twenty people have been killed, all of them civilians. Tem Maybai in Kabul witnessed the effects of the latest attacks.

The glass window of Kabul's biggest departmental store in which I was standing shook with the force of the explosion when a rocket hit the city centre just before noon. It landed in a part within yards of the Mayor's office, next to crowded market streets but only two people were killed, an old man and a young boy on his way to school. A group of women and children walking through the park were also injured. Soldiers carefully picked up the torn pieces of a Quran that the old man was carrying from among the blood stain. A mile away another rocket hit a poor residential area almost at the same time. It exploded in front of a shop blowing the goods on to the streets and killing four people. Another twelve were injured. Since then a third rocket has landed near the airport. This follows warnings from Russian sources that a renewed attack on Kabul was expected. Yesterday in the late afternoon six rockets hit another poor residential area not far from the airport. Hospital authorities say that seven persons died instantaneously, and another five died at a hospital. Meanwhile, a government spokesman says that the battle around the besieged southern city of Jalalabad has claimed with only a sporadic artillery barrage (Newsreel—English: April 5, 89).

The Afghan guerillas say they are in control of a twenty miles strentch of the main road between the city of Jalalabad and the capital Kabul. They say all attempts by the Afghan army to break through their blockade have failed (Outlook—English: April 8, 1989).

Some one hundred trucks carrying supplies have reached the Afghan capital, Kabul, through the Salang Highway which links Kabul with the Soviet Union. A BBC correspondent in Kabul says that these trucks were escorted by tanks and several of them suffered damages in the way. The Afghan government troops have been taking action to open this highway, which was cut off by the Afghan Mujahideen. The Afghan government now claims that its troops have also opened the road leading to Jalalabad in the past two days (News—Urdu: April 14, 1989).

In Afghanistan, the government troops are engaged in fighting to bring more supplies into the capital, Kabul. The government troops used tanks, planes and helicopters in a bid to wipe out guerilla hideouts, only fifteen miles north of the city. However, a BBC correspondent in Kabul says that only a few lorries out of three hundred, caught on the Salang Highway, succeeded in reaching Kabul. More rocket attacks were launched on Kabul, in which a number of people were killed and wounded as a result of artillery attack on the besieged city of Kabul (Shabnama—Urdu: April 15, 1989).

Another big convoy carrying food and arms to Afghanistan from the Soviet Union has reached Kabul.

Afghan helicopter gunships flew overhead as columns of tanks and other armoured vehicles accompanied the first of some five hundred trucks into the city. The convoy has taken more than six weeks to complete the two hundred and fifty miles journey along the Salang Highway which normally takes three days.

The Afghan government says another convoy of more than a hundred trucks is on its way to the besieged city of Jalalabad.

The government also reported a new attack on Jalalabad but said it has been repulsed (April 19, 1989).

The Soviet Embassy in Kabul has been attacked by rockets fired by Afghan rebels.

Reporting the incident the Soviet news agency TASS said one rocket exploded close to an administrative building. It was merely luck, the agency said, that nobody was hurt. Yesterday, four rockets hit northern Kabul (News—English: April 20, 1989).

VOG: Security forces have set up defence squadrons around the Afghan capital to prevent rebels from disrupting celebrations marking the Communist take over eleven years ago. Mayor of Kabul said the

Mujahideen had already distributed leaflets in the Afghan capital urging the population to rise against the government.

According to the Afghan authorities the food and fuel shortages had eased somewhat due to a deal struck with the Mujahideen. Under the agreement regime forces provide Mujahideen with food and other supplies in return for safe passage for convoys (News—English: April 26, 1989).

Radio Jeddah: The Afghan Mujahideen are reported to have tightened their siege around the Afghan capital, Kabul in the wake of continued blockade of the Salang Highway by them for the last ten days.

The Islamabad based western diplomats say, the Mujahideen are allowing entry of supply convoys into Kabul which carry foodstuff only. They are persuading the civilians to leave the city (News—Urdu: April 19, 1989).

AIR: Military sources in Kabul said Afghan Commando forces, helped by helicopter gunships and tanks, had cleared the rebel blockade on the Kabul-Jalalabad highway and a big convoy has left Kabul for the beleaguered city. However, the Peshawar-based Afghan rebels say they have sealed off Jalalabad (News—English: April 11, 1989).

Afghan forces have recovered a large number of arms including ground-to-ground missiles, rocket launchers and mines smuggled into the capital, Kabul by the rebels. Kabul Radio said the arms were to be used for causing death and destruction in the city.

Government troops yesterday cleared two major supply routes to Kabul. A large convoy carrying food and fuel to the Afghan capital passed through a supply route from the Soviet border. Through the other routes trucks carried food and fuel to the besieged city of Jalalabad (News—English: April 15, 1989).

In Afghanistan, the rebels today launched a big rocket attack on the capital, Kabul and its outskirts.

Three rockets are reported to have hit the Soviet Embassy damaging its administrative block. There are no reports of casualties.

According to Embassy sources, the rockets landed in the Embassy premises situated in the eastern part of the town on the main highway.

The rockets also hit three other areas of the capital, killing six people and injuring five others (News—English: April 20, 1989).

The Afghan troops have dug trenches around Kabul to strengthen their defences against rebels' attacks and fortified their bunkers. Fierce fighting is continuing around Jalalabad, Khost, Herat and Qandahar. A Foreign Ministry spokesman said in Kabul that the rebels' attacks have been repulsed.

Meanwhile, Reuter quotes Radio Kabul as saying that twelve

persons were killed and many others injured in rocket attacks on Kabul yesterday by rebels. The Radio said that two mosques and many houses were damaged during the attack. It was the third rocket attack on Kabul during the last four days (News—English: April 24, 1989).

In Afghanistan, more than three hundred and fifty rebels were killed yesterday in counter-attacks by government forces near Kabul.

Moscow Radio has reported at least sixteen persons were killed in the rebels' shelling on Kabul on the eleventh anniversary celebrations.

Meanwhile, the U.N. Security Council has ended its debate on Afghanistan without any positive outcome. Both sides accused each others of failing to honour the Geneva Accords (News—English: April 28, 1989).

In Afghanistan, at least twenty-six people were killed when the rebels shelled the capital, Kabul, yesterday on the 11th anniversay of the Saur Revolution.

The official Soviet news agency TASS reports that the army also thwarted rebel attempts to capture Jalalabad and Khost and to gain control of Kabul-Jalalabad highway in the area of Sarubi district.

It said the timely movement of Afghan forces to Sarubi area helped destroy rebel groups attempting to capture the highway. Traffic is continuing along the Khurasan-Kabul highway (News—English: April 28, 1989).

In Afghanistan, at least thirty rebels were killed in the past twenty four hours when they were trying to disrupt the Kabul-Jalalabad highway.

Reporting this the Soviet news agency TASS also said a large quantity of explosive material was recovered near Kabul.

Radio Kabul reports that Afghan rebels have killed a Central Committee's member of the Ruling Peoples' Democratic Party.

The Afghan Government, in the meantime, has sent three notes to the United Nations citing new instances of violation of the Geneva Accords by Pakistan (News—English: April 30, 1989).

Radio Kabul: The Defence section of Bakhtar news agency reports that those members of the Mujaddadi band, who were responsible for the bomb blast near Pamir Cinema have been arrested in Kabul city. The Security Forces unearthed and defused three kilograms of explosive material (April 3, 1989).

Six people were martyred and twenty-four others injured when the terrorists fired rockets on Kabul city today. Three houses were also destroyed in the attack. The injured people were removed to hospital, five of whom were discharged after providing them first aid (News—Pushto: April 4, 1989).

The Pakistan-backed extremists fired three ground-to-ground missiles on residential areas in Kabul today, martyring ten people including women and children and injuring thirty-nine others. The injured were rushed to the hospitals (News—Pushto: April 5, 1989).

The Defence Section of Bakhtar news agency reports that the security forces have unearthed and captured a huge quantity of arms and ammunition and missiles, stored in Sheikh Adil Baba locality of Kabul by the Pakistan-backed terrorists. In these operations which were carried out with the cooperation of local residents, twenty-five surface-to-surface missiles, eight kilograms of explosives and a number of machinegun bullets were recovered (News—Pushto: April 8, 1989).

The criminal extremists supported by Pakistan fired two ground-to-ground missiles on Kabul city today as a result of which four citizens were injured.

According to another report, an ammunition depot of the extremists was seized by the vigilant Security Forces in Charasiab area in Kabul city today (News—Pushto: April 20, 1989).

Enemies by firing ground-to-ground missiles at different wards of Kabul city today committed another unpardonable crime against our people. Military correspondent of Bakhtar news agency has reported that the criminal extremists today, the 22nd of Ramadhan-ul-Mubarik, fired forty-six missiles at residential area of Kabul city. As a result twenty-three compatriots were martyred and sixty others injured. The martyred include the Imam of Bagh-e-Bala Jamia Mosque. Four houses and two mosques were also destroyed. Similarly damage was also caused to two schools (News—Pushto: April 27, 1989).

In the light of the message of Afghan President, Najibullah, to the commanders of the opposition armed bands in the country, four armed-opposition groups consisting of 314 people have announced their desire to support the national reconciliation policy and given up anti-government activities. The groups belonged to extremist bands of Gulbadin, Khalis and Rabbani (News—Urdu: April 29, 1989).

We regret to report that an active member of the Afghan Democratic Youth Organisation, and former Secretary of the Youth Organisation, Khalil Khusro, has been martyred in a direct armed clash with the enemies of the prosperity and independence of the country. Bakhtar correspondent has reported that the body of Khalil Khusro was laid to rest this morning. The funeral ceremonies of Khalil Khusro were attended among others by the Secretary of the Central Committee of the Party, Najmuddin Kawyani, First Secretary of the Democratic Youth Organisation, Farid Ahmed Mazdak, Incharge of the Armed Forces Section of the Party's Central Committee, Major General, Abdul Haq

Aloomi and Deputy Prime Minister, Sarwar Mangal (News—Pushto: April 29, 1989).

Radio Moscow: An Afghan court has awarded punishment to two Pakistanis for spying.

Sergeant Mohammad Ashraf of the Pakistani special agency, who had been sent to Afghanistan in mid-January last, imparted training for terrorist activities to the extremists. Corporal Mohammad Afzal of Pakistani police, crossed the border in mid-March. He waged anti-state propaganda among the Afghan troops to persuade them to treachery.

Judge of the court announced that the two accused deserved capital punishment but in view of their sincere confession, the court awarded 18 years' imprisonment to Ashraf and 16 years prison term to Afzal (News—Urdu: April 6, 1989).

Afghan extremists have carried out missile attacks on the capital, Kabul and three other cities. The attacks on Thursday followed the Afghan government's announcement on Thursday ceasefire and amnesty for the sick prisoners on the occasion of the sacred month of Ramadhan. The attack on Kabul resulted in casualties and started a fire at a petrol storage facility (April 7, 1989).

The irreconcilable opposition has committed another crime. As Government troops were re-opening the road leading from Kabul to Jalalabad, they discovered dozens of bodies, mostly of women, children and elderly people. Eye witnesses say they were killed by the extremists who attacked a convoy. According to the Afghan authorities, the extremists were commanded by Saudi instructors (News—English: April 15, 1989).

The Afghan armed opposition groups fired missiles on the Soviet Embassy in Kabul this morning. One ground-to-ground missile landed near the administrative block. By sheer chance none of the inhabitants of the Soviet compound was hurt (News—Pushto: April 20, 1989).

The Afghan security forces have unearthed and defused a bomb, which the terrorists had planted at the Central Electricity Station of Kabul city. Similarly, the Afghan forces on patrol have also captured a huge quantity of arms and ammunition, including rocket shells in Shevaki area. However, the rebels are continuing firing long-range missiles on Kabul city from Paghman, Shakkar Dara and Khak-e-Jabar areas (News—Pushto: April 29, 1989).

Parwan

Mujahideen sources: On April 5: Mujahideen fired rockets on Bagram airbase. Two fighters/bombers, a helicopter and 2 tanks were believed hit.

On April 6: A Soviet-made aircraft crashed in Koh-e-Safi area while taking part in operations against the Mujahideen.

On April 7: Kabul regime forces attacked Mujahideen groups and establishments in Haijan, south of Salang Tunnel. Twenty-five enemy soldiers were killed and 2 tanks blasted.

On April 10: Mujahideen captured 2 trucks on the highway between Charikar and Kabul in Parwan province.

On April 12: Two Kabul regime jets and 45 vehicles were destroyed when Mujahideen rocketed Bagram airport.

On the same day, Mujahideen killed 7 Kabuli soldiers in attacks on security posts in Dorani near the Bagram airport.

On April 27: Mujahideen fired rockets on Bagram airfield, hitting some installations and possibly aircraft.

VIRA: Fierce fighting is reported to have taken place between the Afghan Mujahideen and the Kabul regime troops on Salang highway. In an attack on a military convoy of the Kabul regime troops, last week the Afghan Mujahideen inflicted heavy losses in men and material on the Kabul troops. Seven tanks, three jeeps and ten transport vehicles of the Kabul troops were destroyed. Besides, 20 officers and troops of the Kabul regime were arrested. The Afghan Mujahideen said that two high ranking officers of the Kabul regime, arrested by the Mujahideen, were identified as General Sher Jan Bashardoost and General Abdul Saboor (News—Persian: April 22, 1989).

VOA: The Afghan resistance sources say that a supply convoy of Kabul regime on its way from Jabal Siraj to Kabul was ambushed by the Mujahideen belonging to Commander Fazal Muhammad in Laghmankotan area in Parwan province. The convoy was forced to retreat to the Red Fort, of Jabal Siraj. The Mujahideen are reported to have captured thirteen vehicles loaded with weapons and foodstuff. Besides, they have also destroyed a large number of tanks and other vehicles. The Mujahideen are also reported to have blocked the Kabul-Parwan Highway. Sixteen Militiamen of Kabul regime deployed at Koikafi post defected to the Mujahideen on Hamal 6 (March 26). The Mujahideen killed seven supporters of the Kabul regime in Charikar city on Hamal 7 (Commentary—Pushto: April 9, 1989).

Afghan Mujahideen say they carried out an attack on Bagram airport, north of Kabul on Thursday last and destroyed four planes and one helicopter. The Mujahideen also report that they shot down a military helicopter in the outskirts of Jalalabad on Saturday. These reports of Afghan Islamic Press have neither been confirmed through impartial sources nor Afghan Government has commented on them (News—Urdu: April 30, 1989).

AIR: In Afghanistan, Government forces have launched a major offensive to clear the strategic highway between Kabul and the Northern border, from the rebels. According to an Afghan Foreign Ministry spokesman the Government forces hope to re-open the highway soon. Traffic on the road that passes through the Salang Pass was disrupted several days ago due to repeated rebel attacks on food and fuel convoys (April 14, 1989).

The daily HINDUSTAN TIMES has published a three-colomn report from Kabul saying the Government troops claim that Salang Highway has been cleared of the rebels after a forty-eight hours fierce battle. The Government troops used fighter planes and gunship helicopters in this operation. According to another report, the rebels continued rocket attacks on Kabul on the second consecutive day yesterday. Eight people were killed and ten wounded in the attack. Eighteen rockets fell in different localities of Kabul city and ten rockets hit Kabul airport. The authorities say that these rockets caused slight damage (Jahan Numa—Urdu: April 22, 1989).

Radio Kabul: A group of armed opposition joined the national reconciliation policy on the eve of the Ramadhan. The Bakhtar news agency reports that the group was warmly received in Jabal-us-Siraj Uoleswali of Parwan province. The leader of the group, Abdul Wakil spoke on the occasion and expressed readiness for the maintenance of peace and stability in the country. The group which belonged to the Rabbani party handed over its arms to the Government (News—Pushto: April 6, 1989).

The Salang Highway, which had been blocked by the armed extremist groups supported by Pakistan for some time in the past, has been opened for traffic. Military correspondent of Bakhtar news agency has reported that the criminal extremists who failed to observe the ceasefire proclaimed by the Government on the eve of the holy month of Ramadhan and continued to loot the convoys of foodgrains and other consumer goods, came under the deadly blows of the heroic Afghan Armed Forces and Salang Highway was opened for traffic. Military correspondent of Bakhtar news agency in his report added that a convoy consisting of about one hundred trucks carrying foodgrains and consumer goods, arrived in Kabul today. The Armed Forces are busy in maintaining the security of the convoys carrying foodgrains for the citizens along Salang Highway (News—Pushto: April 14, 1989).

Six dacoits associated with Pakistan-backed extremist groups, who were engaged in subversive activities on Salang Highway, were climinated by the Afghan Armed Forces. According to Bakhtar news agency, these elements, who were trying to make economic blockade of Kabul

city, were eliminated as a result of army operation. Huge quantity of arms was recovered and various hideouts of the enemy were destroyed (News—Urdu: April 21, 1989).

Kapisa

Radio Zahidan: Sources of Muslim revolutionaries of Afghanistan have stated that Kabul Government by firing four Scud missiles at an area of Panjsher valley on April 17, martyred thirty-eight persons. Muslim revolutionaries have also reported attacks of Kabul Government on residential areas of Kabul and Jalalabad and positions of Afghan Muslim revolutionaries. They said Kabul Government, by firing a Scud missile at suburban areas of Kabul killed twenty-nine civilian persons including women and children and caused a considerable loss of property (News—Urdu: April 24, 1989).

Laghman

Mujahideen sources: On April 11: Mujahideen hit and destroyed a jet bomber in Torgher area.

On April 12: Mujahideen conducted attacks on Mehtarlam Baba, capital of Laghman, located north-west of Jalalabad. An ammunition dump was hit by rockets and exploded. Mehtarlam was being used to carry supplies to the beleaguered Jalalabad, both by road and helicopters.

Simultaneously, a military convoy was ambushed on Kabul-Jalalabad road passing through Laghman.

On April 15: Mujahideen capture 5 security posts in Galal Bela area of Mehtarlam along the land route connecting Laghman with Ningarhar.

A Soviet-made missile hits a vehicle carrying Mujahideen to Pul-e-Sarcha area, 2 km from Mehtarlam air strip. Thirteen Mujahideen killed.

On April 20: In Laghman province, Kabul regime forces make repeated efforts to re-open the blocked Kabul-Jalalabad road. They came up to Tangi bottleneck in the hills but were forced to retreat to Sarubi.

About 500 regime soldiers were believed killed and 191 captured over a period of 10 days ending 20 April. They also lost 3 helicopters and one jet fighter. About 50 tanks and 250 trucks and lorries were hit.

Mujahideen losses, by comparison, were minimal.

Radio Tehran: Afghan Mujahideen shot down a jet fighter of the Kabul regime forces by anti-aircraft guns in Laghman province (April 29, 1989).

VOA: In another report, the office of Hizb-e-Islami says that a

Mujahideen Commander, Rehman Bahawoodin, was killed in Laghman province when his vehicle hit a mine. Eight Mujahideen were also wounded in the incident. The report says that Afghan Mujahideen shot down a Kabul regime helicopter in Alinga Pass on Hamal 9 (April 9, 89).

Afghan news agency has reported that the Mujahideen have captured several Kabul regime posts near Mehtarlam in Laghman province on the road which leads to Jalalabad (Interview—Urdu: April 19, 89).

AIR: Heavy fighting is reported to be continuing between the rebels and the Government troops in areas of Laghman west of Jalalabad (April 14, 1989).

Radio Kabul: The extremist groups supported by Pakistan launched a missile attack on Mehtarlam city of Laghman province yesterday as a result of which one citizen was martyred and four others were injured. The personnel of the Armed Forces launched counter-attack on the hideouts of the extremists. Six extremists were killed and five others were injured (News—Pushto: April 14, 1989).

Military correspondent of Bakhtar news agency reports from Mehtarlam city that as a result of the heavy weapons' firing of the enemy on Mehtarlam city, four citizens were martyred and twelve others were injured. But due to counter-attacks of the Armed Forces, twelve enemy personnel were killed and seventeen others injured (News —Pushto: April 19, 1989).

Logar

Mujahideen sources: On April 5: Mujahideen captured a security post at Padkhab village, 2 miles from Pul-i-Alam. Thirty regime soldiers/ militiamen taken prisoner.

On April 7: Four Soviet-made jets bombard villages around Deh Nau Bazar, killing 26 persons including women and children. Deh Nau Bazar is a place from where travellers embark pickup cars for Pakistan.

On April 12: Kabul regime helicopters attacked vehicles carrying Mujahideen in Baboos Desert area.

On April 13: Some vehicles carrying Mujahideen hit landmines in Dobandi area.

Radio Kabul: The Afghan security forces attacked the hideouts of the terrorists, who had violated the ceasefire. As a result, fifty-eight rebels were killed and one hundred and fifty-five others injured in Logar province. A huge quantity of the rebels' arms was also destroyed (April 7, 1989).

Kabul Times: Two hundred armed extremists including mercenaries of Saudi Arabia, were smashed and 16 vehicles carrying weapons and ammunition of the enemy, destroyed as a result of the heavy blows

inflicted by the Afghan forces on the violators of the ceasefire in Logar province (April 12, 1989).

Wardak

Radio Kabul: An official source of the Afghan security forces informed the Bakhtar news agency that the ceasefire announced by the Afghan Government on the eve of holy month of Ramadhan has been observed in a number of areas of the country. But in Ningarhar, Khost, Gardez, Tor Kotal, Sarubi Uoleswali, Herat, Logar and Wardak the ceasefire was violated by the opposition groups backed by Pakistan (April 7, 1989).

4 — PSYCHOLOGICAL WARFARE THEMES

Radio Kabul

Given below were the major Radio Kabul propaganda themes in the month of April 1989, in descending order of recurrence:

1. Pakistani military and para-military personnel and Arab Wahabi mercenaries are directly participating in the fighting for Jalalabad, Khost and Qandahar.
2. Extremist elements are fighting for the interests of others. They are not faithful to Afghanistan, stooges of their imperialist masters and they are blood thirsty of the innocent people of Afghanistan.
3. Since the signing of Geneva Accords, Kabul and Moscow have been fully complying with the Accords. On the other hand, Pakistan and its allies are violating it.
4. Afghan forces are strong enough to defend the country and vigilent to meet every challenge. Their morale is very high. They have proved their guts by inflicting unforgetable defeat on the enemy in the Jalalabad.
5. Pakistan is playing with the national prestige and values of the Afghans and endangering independence of Afghanistan.

Radio Moscow

Given below were the major Moscow media propaganda themes pertaining to the Afghan issue in April 1989, in descending order of recurrence:

1. U.S. and Pakistan are violating the Geneva Accords and are directly involved in the fighting for capturing the cities like

Jalalabad, Khost and Qandahar.

2. The Soviet Union and government of Afghanistan are adhering to the Geneva Accords.
3. Mujahideen's unrealistic, anti-state, anti-people terroristic attitudes deserve condemnations.
4. Pakistan's military manoeuvring, U.S. military help, nuclear programme and Pakistan's armament industry; all these are creating military imbalance in the sub-continent. That is a matter of serious concern for the countries of this region.
5. Political settlement on the basis of power sharing and broad-based coalition government would be an appropriate solution to the Afghanistan problem rather than military option.

APPENDIX — 1

ESTIMATE OF LOSSES IN APRIL 1989 (MUJAHIDEEN SOURCES)

Human Losses

Kabul casualties	:	1499 killed and 1341 wounded
Defections	:	2609 Kabul troops defected and 771 captured
Mujahideen Casualties	:	149 killed and 237 wounded
Afghan Civilian Casualties	:	159 killed and 209 wounded

Soviet-Kabul Material Losses

Aircraft	21	Security Posts	95
Helicopters	14	Buildings	8
Tanks	154	Airport Installations	1
APCs	108	Food Depots	2
HMVs	175	Ammunition Depots	13
Trucks	111	Bridges	2
Oil Tankers	42	Arms & Ammunitions	3
Jeeps	17	Assorted Weapons	856
LMGs	100	Round of Ammunitions	1000
HMGs	73	Barracks	43
Doshaka	10	Olive processing factory	2
Rocket launchers	46	Military Workshop	2
Klashnikovs	1039	T.V. transmitter	1
Rifles	98	Cloth Depot	1
Pistols	5	Power House	1
Blankets	200	Sleeping Bags	100

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APPENDIX — 2

ESTIMATE OF LOSSES IN APRIL 1989
SOVIET-KABUL (RADIO KABUL) SOURCES

Losses Inflicted to "Counter-Revolutionaries"

Human Losses:	killed	5489
	Wounded	3490
	Captured	204
Returnees	Civilian Refugees	928
	Armed Men Surrendering	394

Mujahideen Material Losses

S-A Missiles	3	G.G. Missiles	224
Hideouts	38	Trenches	13
Recoilles Guns	15	Command Posts	2
LMGs	109	Mortars	169 + 75 shells
HMGs	6	Doshaks	6 + 11,000 shells
Zkgs	4	Explosives	23 Kg
Rocket Launchers	117		
Assorted Weapons	72		
Munition Depots	18		
Mines (Misc)	97		
Vehicles	62	including 48 laden with arms	

Losses Inflicted by Counter-Revolutionaries Elements

Human Losses	Killed	546	(including 42 troops)
	Wounded	667	(including 118 troops)

Material Losses	Aircraft	1	Schools	4	Offices	2
	Guest House	1	Houses	116	Warehouse	1
	Vehicles	2	Tank	1	Shops	52
	APCs	2	HMV	1	Fuel Depot	1
	Olive Processing Factor			1		

APPENDIX — 3

PROVINCEWISE ENGAGEMENTS IN APRIL 1989
(MUJAHIDEEN SOURCES)

Provinces	Total Engage-ments	Provincial Capital
Bordering Pakistan		
Nimruz	—	Zaranj
Hilmand	5	Lashkargah
Qandahar	27	Qandahar
Zabul	4	Kalat Gilzai
Ghazni	8	Ghazni
Paktika	—	Sharna
Paktiya	27	Gardez
Ningarhar	158	Jalalabad
Kunar	1	Chagha Sarai
Nooristan	—	Godwal
Bordering USSR		
Badakhshan	19	Faizabad
Takhar	4	Taloqan
Kunduz	7	Kunduz
Baghlan	20	Baghlan
Samangan	—	Samangan
Balkh	1	Mazar-e-Sharif
Jozjan	7	Shebergan
Sar-e-pul	—	Sar-e-Pul
Faryab	10	Maimana
Badghis	—	Qala Nau
Bordering Iran		
Herat	21	Herat
Farah	2	Farah
(Nimruz)	—	(Zaranj)
Central Provinces		
Bamiyan	—	Bamiyan
Ghor	—	Chaghcharan
Uruzgan	2	Tarin Kot
Kabul & Adjacent		
Kabul	100	Kabul
Parwan	31	Charikar
Kapisa	3	Mahmud-i-Raq
Laghman	24	Mehtarlam
Logar	9	Pul-e-Alam
Wardak	—	Koteasro
TOTAL	504	

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APPENDIX — 4

MUJAHIDEEN MOBILE & IMMOBILE TARGETS AND KABUL OPERATIONS IN APRIL 1989 (MUJAHIDEEN SOURCES)

Provinces	Mujahideen Targets		Kabul Air and Ground Operations	Total
	Mobile	Immobile		
Bordering Pakistan				
Nimruz	—	—	—	—
Hilmand	1	4	—	5
Qandahar	4	19	4	27
Zabul	1	3	—	4
Ghazni	2	4	2	8
Paktika	—	—	—	—
Paktiya	1	11	—	12
Ningarhar	19	64	75	158
Kunar	—	—	1	1
Nooristan	—	—	—	—
Bordering USSR				
Badakhshan	—	4	15	19
Takhar	—	2	2	4
Kunduz	4	2	1	7
Baghlan	17	2	1	20
Samangan	—	—	—	—
Balkh	1	—	—	1
Jozjan	1	3	3	7
Sar-e-pul	—	—	—	—
Faryab	2	8	—	10
Badghis	—	—	—	—
Bordering Iran				
Herat	6	7	8	21
Farah	2	—	—	2
(Nimruz)	—	—	—	—
Central Provinces				
Bamiyan	—	—	—	—
Ghor	—	—	—	—
Uruzgan	1	1	—	2
Kabul & Adjacent				
Kabul	23	44	33	100
Parwan	4	17	10	31
Kapisa	—	1	2	3
Laghman	6	8	10	24
Logar	1	2	6	9
Wardak	—	—	—	—
TOTAL:	113	214	124	504

APPENDIX — 5

PROVINCEWISE KABUL SECURITY OPERATIONS & RETURNEES IN APRIL 1989 (SOVIET-KABUL SOURCES)

Provinces	Kabul Operations	Counter-revolutionaries Action	Returnees	Armed men surrendered	Volunteer joining armed forces
Bordering Pakistan					
Nimruz	—	—	—	—	—
Hilmand	2	1	—	—	—
Qandahar	13	4	—	428	—
Zabul	—	—	—	—	—
Ghazni	2	1	—	—	—
Paktika	—	—	—	—	—
Paktiya	7	26	—	—	—
Ningarhar	25	32	—	—	—
Kunar	—	—	—	—	—
Nooristan	—	—	—	—	—
Bordering USSR					
Badakhshan	2	—	—	—	—
Takhar	1	—	—	—	—
Kunduz	1	1	—	—	—
Baghlan	3	3	—	—	—
Samangan	2	1	—	—	—
Balkh	1	—	—	—	50
Jozjan	—	—	—	—	—
Sar-e-Pul	3	—	—	500	—
Faryab	—	6	—	—	—
Badghis	—	—	—	—	—
Bordering Iran					
Herat	4	3	—	—	—
Farah	—	—	—	—	—
(Nimruz)	—	—	—	—	—
Central Provinces					
Bamiyan	—	—	—	—	—
Ghor	—	—	—	—	—
Uruzgan	—	—	—	—	—
Kabul & Adjacent					
Kabul	10	17	—	—	314
Parwan	3	1	—	—	30
Kapisa	—	—	—	—	—
Laghman	2	4	—	—	—
Logar	2	1	—	—	—
Wardak	—	1	—	—	—
TOTAL:	83	101	—	928	394

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APPENDIX — 6

AFGHAN CIVILIAN HUMAN AND MATERIAL LOSSES IN APRIL 1989 (MUJAHIDEEN SOURCES)

Provinces	Location	Casualties K	Casualties W	Houses Destroyed	Date 1989
Ningarhar	Jalalabad	—	—	10	02-04
Ningarhar	Batikot	—	—	24	16-04
Ningarhar	Khushgumbad	2	10	—	28-03
Ningarhar	Surkhrud	9	—	—	01-04
Ningarhar	Goshta	10	24	—	03-04
Ningarhar	Shershahi	1	—	—	05-04
Ningarhar	Chaprihar	9	3	—	13-04
Ningarhar	Chaprihar	1	2	—	16-04
Ningarhar	Chaprihar	1	15	—	23-04
Kunar	Asadabad	2	7	—	08-04
Badakhshan	Shehr-e-Bazurg	25	75	—	31-03
Takhar	Ashkamash	—	—	5	19-03
Baghlan	Pul-e-Khumri	8	—	—	16-04
Herat	Guzra	13	6	20	18-03
Parwan	Bagram area	10	—	—	16-04
Logar	Deh Nau	28	17	—	07-04
TOTAL		129	192	59	

Note: Total 18 incidents, including 10 incidents in Ningarhar province alone. Most of the civilian losses were caused by high altitude aerial bombardment carried by the Afghan Air Force.

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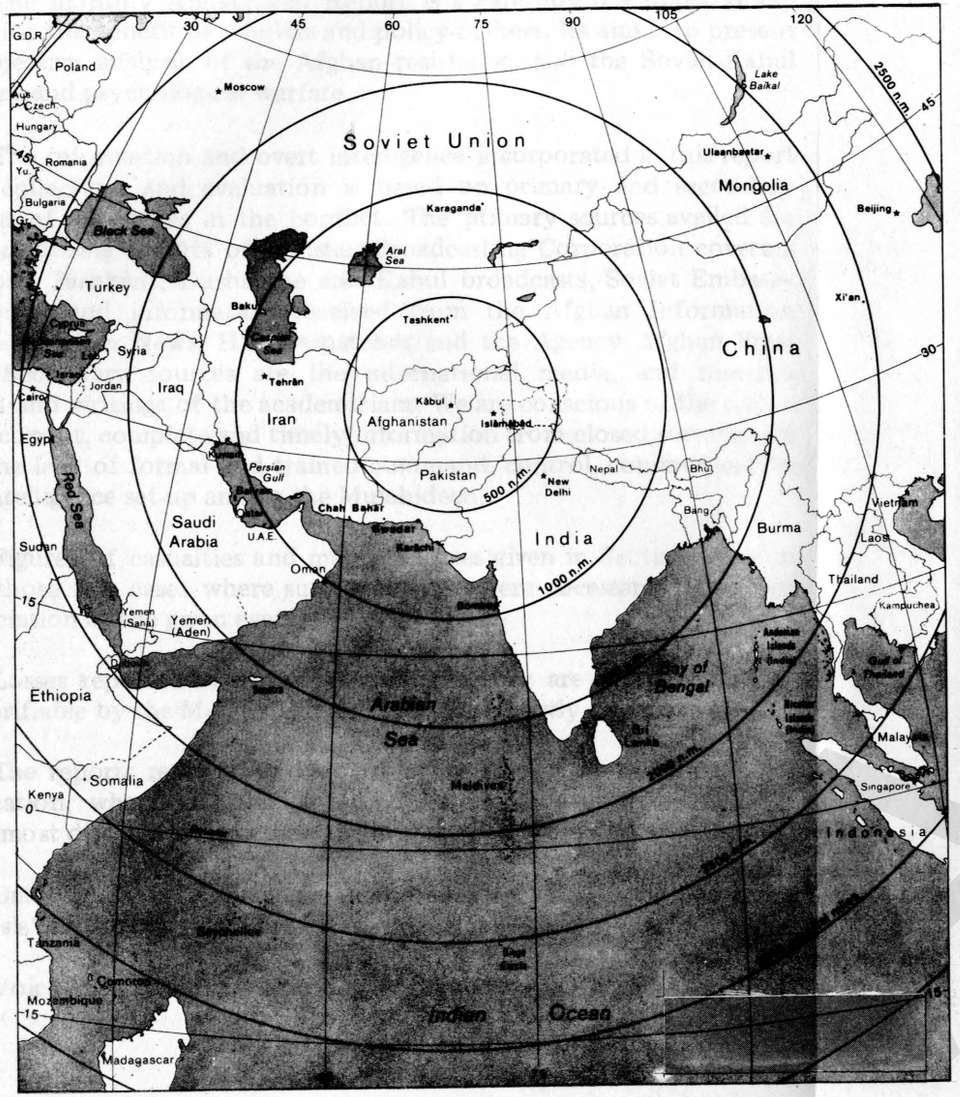
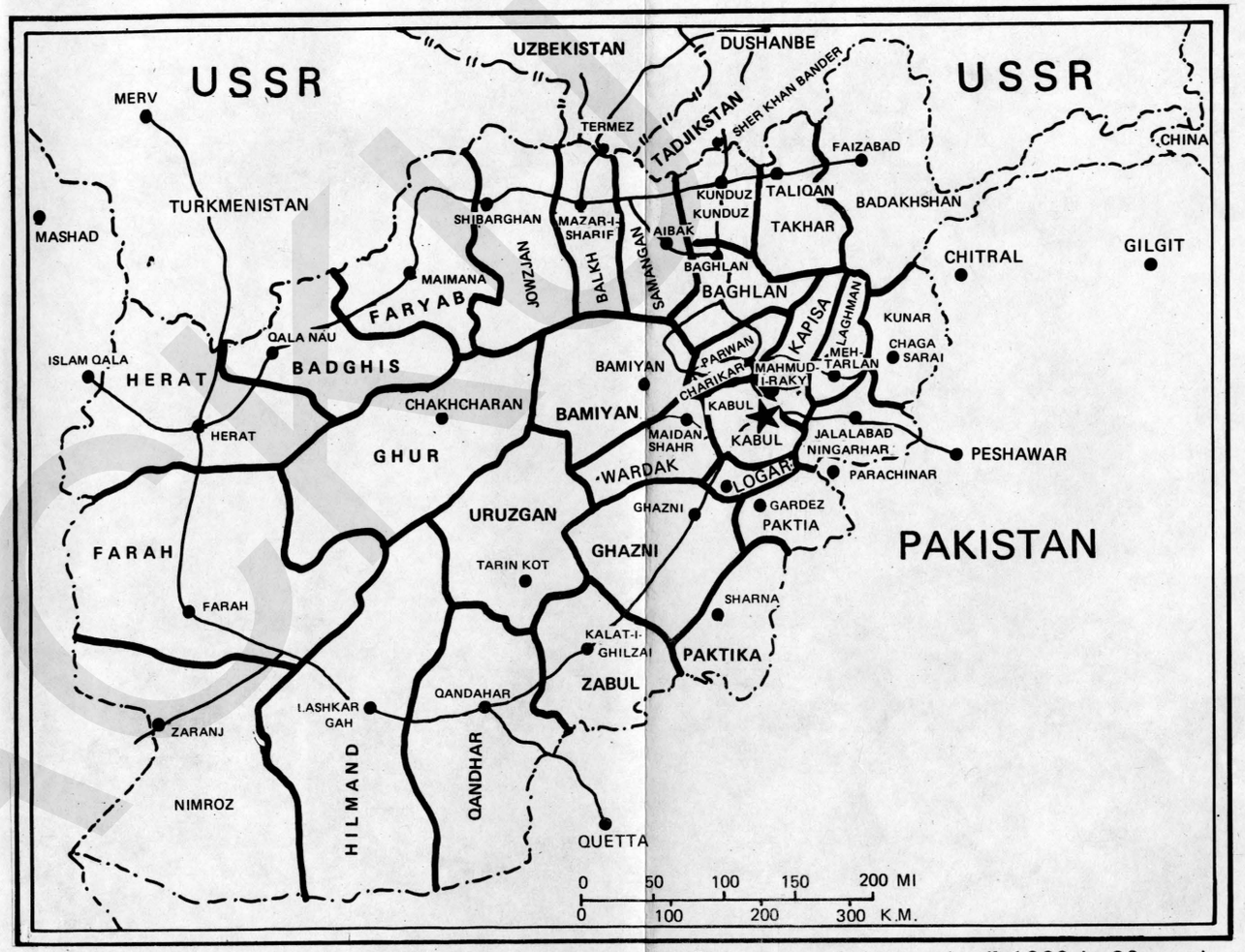
APPENDIX — 7

MAPS

APPENDIX — 7 A



APPENDIX — 7 B



Mujahideen sources: Conflict reported during April 1989 in 23 provinces. Provinces from where no war report received: Paktika, Nimroz, Nooristan, Samangan, Sar-e-Pul, Bamiyan, Ghor and Wardak.

Radio Kabul: Conflict reported during April 1989 in 19 provinces. Provinces from where no war report received: Nimroz, Zabul, Paktika, Kunar, Nooristan, Jozjan, Farah, Bamiyan, Ghor, Uruzgan, Badghis and Kapisa.

NOTES

The monthly Afghanistan Report is a carefully researched document for the benefit of scholars and policy-makers. Its aim is to present an objective analysis of the Afghan resistance, and the Soviet-Kabul military and psychological warfare.

The information and overt intelligence incorporated in this report after collection, and evaluation is based on primary and secondary sources of all parties in the conflict. The primary sources availed are the monitoring reports of Pakistan Broadcasting Corporation covering Moscow, Tashkent, Dushambe and Kabul broadcasts, Soviet Embassy handouts, and information received from the Afghan Information Centre, Afghan News, HIA despatches and the Agency Afghan Press files. Secondary sources are the international media, and research papers and writings of the academicians. We are conscious of the paucity of correct, complete and timely information from closed societies, as also the lack of formal and trained command, control, communication and intelligence set-up among the Mujahideen.

Figures of casualties and material losses given in Section 3 are in only those few cases where such inclusions were necessary for proper appreciation of the given events.

Losses reported in "Soviet-Kabul" category are often physically not verifiable by the Mujahideen and therefore mostly speculative.

The reports received and reported are subject to the process of verification, whenever possible, which may include interviewing with those most directly informed on the events.

Dates given in parenthesis in the chapter "Porvincewise Survey Analysis" are of the actual broadcast.

Voice of Islamic Revolutionary Afghanistan (VOIR).

PERIOD COVERED

Facts and figures given in this study are based on reports mostly received during April 1—30, 1989.

II.— POLITICAL AND SOCIO-ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENTS IN AFGHANISTAN

1 — POLITICAL DEVELOPMENTS

Najib Admits Mistakes

Excerpts from President Najibullah's speech at a function in Kabul, marking 11th anniversary of April Revolution:

One should admit that our achievements in the last eleven years were not sufficient at all. Two years ago the PDPA and the state of the Republic of Afghanistan analyzed critically, with realism and boldness the development of the situation during the past years. The outcome of the assessment was such that the party decided to undertake a new approach in all spheres and directions and to remove the shortfalls mistakes and shortcomings of the past years.

If we approach critically the past eleven years and to analyze it realistically, one can see that numerous mistakes and even big ones were committed, where, regrettably, our people paid dearly for these mistakes. Due to ignoring the law-governed stages of the national-democratic revolution, lack of precise recognition of the prevailing situation in the country, neglect of the sensitive geographic position, mechanical and abstract implementation of the formulas and textbook recipes and hastiness over the realization of the state programmes, without taking into account the historic conditions, popular traditions and interest of various strata and groups, utilization of the bureaucratic methods up to unwarranted intervention in all spheres of economy, the implementation of land reform in a half-backed manner, far-removed from the objective realities, deviation from the principled policy towards national issues, tribals included, all in all caused that the natural allies of the April Revolution distanced themselves greatly from the process of reforms and transformations. Under such conditions and mistakes, the opposition forces became ever more actively organized in their hostility against the party and state objectives and they enjoyed foreign support.

I want to speak more specifically on the subject: The main issue, on which no attention was paid since the very beginning of the revolution, was ignoring the political forces of the society. Without resorting to the attraction and support of these forces and not mobilizing the national, progressive and democratic forces up to individual socio-political figures for carrying out the law-governed stages of progressive reforms in the society, the party monopolized the power. This in turn, caused that the political forces of the society stand potentially against

the party and state programme and the social bases of the state remained limited in the society.

A number of party members, without taking into account the multi-strata, multi-institutional and multi-national society which itself is traditionalistic from the historic and cultural viewpoints, stood long in their utopianism, rhetorics and flashy slogans. There is a saying "if you cannot overcome the difficulties, consult the learned. If they could not help, learn from the realities and popular experiences. Then, you will never commit a mistake" (Kabul Times, 30 April).

Promotions Awarded

As per the decree of Najibullah, President of the RA and Supreme Commander of the armed forces, in honour of the 11th anniversary of April Revolution the following officers have been promoted to their higher ranks:

From Lt. General to the rank of Col. General: Mohammad Aslam Watanyar S/o Alam Khan, Mohammad Asif Dilawar S/o Dilawar, Mohammad Nabi Azimi S/o Ghulam Haider, Mohammad Afzal Loddin S/o Mohammad Sarwar, Noor-ul-Haq Olumi S/o Abdul Azim, Abdul Qadir Aka S/o Abdul Ghafoor.

From Maj. General to the rank of Lt. General: Abdul Haq Samadi S/o Abdul Samad, Abdul Fateh S/o Abdul Hadi, Mohammad Amin S/o Mohammad Hakim, Mohammad Anwar S/o Jan Mohammad, Janbaz S/o Ali Mohammad, Noorullah S/o Mohammad Karim, Khudaidad S/o Ghulam Ali, Mohammad Wali S/o Sher Mohammad, Ghulam Mustafa S/o Yousafzai, Ghulam Haider S/o Mohammad Umar, Mohammad Mohsin Hellali S/o Abdul Wahid, Mohammad Arif Sakhra S/o Taj Muhammad, Yar Mohammad S/o Faqir Mohammad, Mohammad Umar S/o Mohammad Hashim, Ahmad Zaman Arzo S/o Mohammad Zaman, Rahmatullah S/o Abdul Raouf. Besides another sixty-eight officers were promoted from their existing ranks of Colonel to the ranks of Maj. General (Kabul Times, 26 April).

Kabul Announced Ceasefire

In view of the ensuing holy month of Ramadhan, the Supreme Command of the Afghan armed forces announed the ceasefire on all the fronts from the first day of the holy month of Ramadhan to the fourth day of Eid-ul-Fitr. The Afghan armed forces have been directed to deal those with crushing blows who do not observe the ceasefire. The ceasefire which will continue for more than a month is being announced in a bid that the opposition will also open new chapter of peace, reconciliation and negotiations (Radio Kabul, 5 April).

Mujahideen Rejects Ceasefire

Giving an interview to the BBC Eastern Service, the President of the Interim Government of the Afghan Mujahideen, Prof. Sibghatullah Mujaddadi has said that the Afghan Mujahideen could not accept the offer of ceasefire by the Afghan Government. He said that in the past jehad had continued in the month of Ramadhan and that they too would continue their jehad, in this month.

Replying to a question whether the public opinion did not welcome the ceasefire, he said that in the past too, the Soviet Union and the Kabul Government had proposed ceasefire and we had rejected it (BBC, 6 April).

Kabul Mosque Imam Arrested

An Imam of Kabul mosque Abdul Rauf has been arrested for criticising the Najib regime.

The Imam had criticised the crimes of Najibullah regime against the Mujahideen during his speech of first Friday of the holy month of Ramadhan in Wazir Akbar Khan mosque (Radio Tehran, 27 April).

New Indian Ambassador Arrived in Kabul

The new Indian Ambassador to Afghanistan, Mr. M.H. Ansari presented his credentials to the President, Dr. Najibullah in Kabul on April 24, 1989 (AIR, 25 April).

Malaysia Recognised Mujahideen Government

As it seems to be a change of thought, the Malaysian government has recognised the Pakistan based Afghan Mujahideen Interim Government. The report full of surprise was released almost twenty-four hours after the Malaysian Prime Minister, Dr. Mahathir Muhammad announced that Malaysia will recognize the Mujahideen interim government when it becomes a broad-based and representative of all the Afghans. The senior administrative officials of the Malaysian government did not disclose any proof regarding the change of their stand. But the Foreign Minister in the Mujahideen interim government, Mr. Gulbadin Hikmatyar has assured the Malaysian Premier that the interim government is fully determined to seek the support of all the Mujahideen including those in Iran (BBC, 14 April).

The Pakistan Foreign Minister, Sahabzada Yaqub Khan has reiterated his government's support for Afghan rebels. However, he indicated that certain conditions will have to be fulfilled prior to the recognition of Mujahideen's interim government.

In an interview to a British journalist, the Foreign Minister said it

will be easier for Pakistan to recognise the interim government when it has greater representation inside Afghanistan, Iran-based rebel groups are included in it and it is established on Afghanistan soil (BBC, 21 April).

The Afghan resistance says its government in exile has held another meeting inside Afghanistan. Mujahideen representatives say the meeting began on April 12 and concluded on April 15. It was held at three certain locations in Paktia and Paktika provinces along the border with Pakistan. The shifting of interim government of Afghan Mujahideen to some suitable place inside Afghanistan was thoroughly discussed (VOA, 16 April).

UN Security Council Debate on Afghanistan

Afghanistan has accused Pakistan of engaging in a full fledged war against Kabul and said intervention by the Pakistan Army and militia must stop. Afghanistan made its complaints at an emergency session of the United Nations Security Council which was convened to consider Kabul's claims. The fifteen-member Council is not expected to adopt any critical resolutions or take action on Afghanistan's complaints because of the power of veto of the United States which backs Pakistan. The emergency session was adjourned after speeches from Afghanistan and Pakistan without scheduling further talks (Radio Australia, 12 April).

Reports from Islamabad say that the interim government of the Afghan Mujahideen through a letter has called upon the United Nations to suspend the Security Council debate on the Afghan issue. If the Security Council desires to continue the debate, it must focus its attention on the Soviet and Indian interference in the Afghan affairs. In a letter addressed to the UN Secretary General, Mr. Perez de Cuellar, Professor Abdul Rab Rasool Sayyaf said that the present emergency session of the UN Security Council has been convened on the baseless complaint of an illegal government.

Mr. Sayyaf claimed that the Soviet military advisers were still involved in the Afghan war while the Soviet pilots were flying the Afghan jet fighters. He also claimed that a retired Soviet military officer was helping Kabul troops in the use of long-range Soviet-made Scud missiles against the Mujahideen (VOG, 13 April).

During debate on Afghanistan in the UN Security Council, Pakistan expressed its willingness that UN observers be posted at some places on the Pak-Afghan borders.

Now as a result of the latest concession allowed by Pakistan they will be able to make permanent stay at three major points of crossing

on Pak-Afghan borders viz just at the opening of the Khyber Pass at Torkham, at Trimangal near Parachinar and at Chaman near Quetta. This is half the number of posts demanded by the Afghanistan government. Besides innumerable other routes can also be found out to cross the border. But according to a UN official because of these three new and significant posts on the border it will become possible for the UN official to quickly visit the site and investigate into the complaints. An official of the UN said that they should not be construed as Peace Force and that their only task was to supervise the agreement (BBC, 13 April).

The new American Ambassador to the United Nations Mr. Thomas Pickering has said that Washington is opposed to any increased United Nations involvement in Afghanistan.

Mr. Pickering in his first address to the Security Council said that United Nations should play a more prominent role in Afghanistan only if all the parties involved in the Afghan conflict wanted it.

But the East European countries have called upon the United Nations to further enhance its activities including the convening of an international conference on the Afghan problem under the aegis of the United Nations and expansion of UN Observer Force in the region (BBC, 18 April).

Meanwhile on Monday's debate Malaysia and Saudi Arabia also warned the United Nations to stay out of the Afghan civil war. Both Islamic countries have recognized the interm government which was set up by the Peshawar-based alliance of Mujahideen (VOA, 18 April).

Debate on Afghanistan issue in the UN Security Council has ended without any outcome. In the UN Security Council, debate on Afghanistan could not present a resolution which could be acceptable to all the members of the Council. Moreover, it could not persuade the United States to support the idea which it presented. As a result the Soviet Union accused Pakistan of violating the Geneva Accords by organising and arming the Afghan Mujahideen. In reply the United States and Pakistan with the support of other Muslim countries accused the Soviet Union of violating the Geneva Accords by providing military assistance to the Kabul government. On the last day delegates of the two superpowers, the United States and the Soviet Union exchanged hot words.

Diplomats, however, believe that the President of the Security Council will not make a bid for resuming the debate as there is no hope of any outcome (BBC, 27 April).

The US State Department says it sees weight in a Pakistani request for UN observers to monitor the flow of Soviet arms into Afghanistan.

On April 26, Pakistan accused Moscow of shipping huge quantities of weapons into Afghanistan and requested UN monitoring posts on their borders. Pakistan made the request after it had agreed to similar UN monitoring posts at its border with Afghanistan (VOA, 29 April).

Mr. Sayyaf Rejects Cuellar Proposal

On the occasion of first anniversary of Geneva Accords on Afghanistan, the United Nations Secretary General, Mr. Perez de Cuellar has appealed for an end to fighting and establish a broad-based government in Afghanistan. Mr. Cuellar has deeply regretted escalation of fighting in Afghanistan. He appealed to all parties of the Geneva Accords including the United States and the Soviet Union as guarantors to fulfil their responsibilities and to ensure sincere implementation of the Accords. Mr. Cuellar particularly appealed to the Afghan people that their miseries could only end if they work for a coordinated political settlement. He stressed the Afghan people to seriously initiate negotiations for a broad-based government. Mr. Cuellar said not only hundred and thousands of Afghan refugees could not return to their homeland but rather more Afghans are fleeing due to the fighting (VOA, 15 April).

Pakistan-based Afghan rebels have rejected the UN Secretary General, Mr. Perez de Cuellar's proposal for an intra-Afghan dialogue on creating a broad-based government in Afghanistan.

In a statement in Peshawar the leader of the Afghan Mujahideen government, Mr. Sayyaf said the Mujahideen could not think of compromising with the regime of Dr. Najibullah (AIR, 20 April).

The Afghan President, Dr. Najibullah has appealed to the Arab countries to persuade the rebels to participate in talks.

In an interview to the Kuwaiti Newspaper, Dr. Najib said that Afghanistan would continue its efforts to maintain good relations with Arab countries for the cause of peace (AIR, 26 April).

President Najibullah of Afghanistan says he has been holding talks with Mujahideen guerilla leaders but he said signed agreement prevented him from naming those who took part from the guerilla side.

President Najibullah was talking with western television companies. A presidential spokesman said the talks have been with individual leaders, not with the Mujahideen alliances or any group (BBC, 19 April).

Spokesman of the eight-party alliance of Afghan Mujahideen, Mr. Ali Jan Zahidi has denied allegations regarding their talks with Kabul government.

In an interview with our correspondent, he emphatically said that the Kabul regime is illegal. He said these allegations are being levelled by our enemies and Kabul government is fanning them. He said in

present situation when Kabul regime leaders are bent upon to dent the ranks of Afghan Mujahideen, the forces waging jehad in Afghanistan should express goodwill and sincerity towards each other (Radio Zahidan, 28 April).

USSR Greetings to Kabul

The Central Committee of the Soviet Communist Party and the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet have sent greetings to the Afghan President Najibullah on the 11th anniversary of the national democratic revolution. The message notes that Afghanistan is passing through a crucial moment in its history. Under the Geneva Accords the Soviet Union has withdrawn its troops in keeping with the schedule. The Republic's leadership is consistently taking constructive steps to end the bloodshed and reach national reconciliation. The message condemns the continued external interference which prevents the Afghan people from achieving peace and stability. The Soviet Union resolutely supports the just struggle of the Afghan people for national accord and stable peace (Radio Moscow, 26 April).

The Soviet Ambassador to Afghanistan, Mr. Yuli Vorontsov has said any future attacks on the Soviet Embassy in Kabul will be met with an immediate and resolute response.

Mr. Vorontsov was speaking five days after a rocket fired by Afghan rebels exploded close to an Administrative building of the Embassy. No one was injured. But Mr. Vorontsov said anyone who perpetrated such acts in future must realise that they would not go unpunished (BBC, 26 April).

Ahmad Shah Masood Turned Down Soviet Offer

In an interview published in a Kuwaiti newspaper Al-Watan, Yuli Vorontsov said that Ahmad Shah Masood has rejected the Soviet proposal based on giving one-third seats to his party in the Afghan government in exchange for reopening the Salang Highway.

The Soviet Ambassador added that similarly, Ahmad Shah Masood did not accept all Soviet proposals including one for the provision of foodstuffs and communication assistance to his forces in exchange for reopening the Salang Highway (Radio Tehran, 17 April).

Diplomats say the Mujahideen led by Commander Ahmad Shah Masood had gained so much control of the Salang Highway in past ten days that no convoy passed through this area without their consent. They allowed one hundred and fifty trucks loaded with food items to enter Kabul city last week. The truck drivers brought a message of Ahmad Shah Masood for Kabul citizens that "I will come to Kabul after snow melting".

Commander Ahmad Shah Masood is Head of the Supervisory Council of Northern Afghanistan. A source has reported that they have decided to hold a meeting of the Council in the last week of this month in Panjsher Valley. Mujahideen Commanders from Badakhshan, Takhar, Kunduz, Baghlan, Parwan and Kabul have been invited to attend the meeting. The meeting will review the strategy to capture Kabul which has been proposed by the seven-party alliance of the Mujahideen (VOA, 18 April).

Afghans Condemn Saur Revolution

The Pakistan-based Afghan refugees and Mujahideen held a meeting in Peshawar and condemned the eleventh anniversary of the Communist Saur Coup d'etat. Different groups of the Afghan Mujahideen arranged and held meetings. A meeting was held in the Central office of the Milli Nijat Organisation, and leader of the organisation and President of the Mujahideen interim government, Professor Sibghatullah Mojaddadi spoke on the occasion. The office bearers of the organisation in their speeches described the Saur-7 Coup d'etat as anti-national and anti-Islamic planned by the Soviets who also took active part in the implementation. The objective of the coup was to bring into power their puppets in Afghanistan. The speakers said that puppet Kabul regime gave nothing to the people except killings, wounds, miseries, problems and destruction (VOA, 28 April).

The Afghan Mujahideen and refugees staged demonstrations in various cities of Iran including Tehran and Qum on April 27, on the eve of 11th anniversary of communist coup d'etat in Afghanistan.

Chanting Allah-ho-Akbar, the demonstrators raised anti-communist slogans condemning conspiracies of the international imperialism against the Muslim people of Afghanistan. They also condemned every kind of foreign interference in Afghanistan and creating rift within the ranks of the Mujahideen by the enemies of Islam. They asked for unity among the Mujahideen in both Sunni and Shia groups (Radio Tehran, 28 April).

Jalalabad: A Commander's View

A renowned Afghan Mujahideen Commander has described Mujahideen's attack on Jalalabad as a mistake. In an interview to the French news agency AFP, Commander Abdul Haq of moderate Mujahideen group, Hizb-e-Islami said that Afghan Mujahideen possess military hardware only for guerilla war while for capturing Jalalabad they need arms used in conventional war such as ground-to-air and anti-tank

rockets. Commenting on possible attack on Kabul, Commander Abdul Haq said that at the moment, attack would not be carried out and instead efforts would be made to cut off the capital from other parts of the country (VOG, 17 April).

Pakistan Protest to Kabul

Pakistan has lodged a protest to Afghanistan against firing of medium range Scud missile which fell near Pakistani border.

Afghan Charge d'Affairs was summand to the Pakistan Foreign Office and handed over a protest note on the firing of a Scud missile by the Afghan Army on April 6. This missile hit the Afghan post at Torkham. This post, which is presently under the Mujahideen control is situated at Pakistan border near Khyber Pass. This missile caused considerable damage, however, no body was injured. Pakistan has described this firing of missile as a clear provocation by the Kabul government, which is aimed at internationalising the Afghanistan situation to escape themselves from the wrath of their own people (VOA, 9 April).

Saudi Arabia Denied Involvement

Saudi Arabia has denied that the paramilitary advisers or paramilitary troops are fighting alongwith Afghan rebels in Jalalabad or other cities of Afghanistan.

The Saudi Ambassador in New Delhi told the UNI correspondent that some Saudi volunteers, alongwith other Arab countries volunteers are fighting against Afghan government.

The leader of the volunteer contingent has recently been injured in a missile attack on Jalalabad (AIR, 19 April).

US Appoint Envoy to Mujahideen

President Bush has nominated his special Envoy for Afghan Mujahideen's interim government. His status will be of an Ambassador. It is an interim step until Mujahideen fulfil conditions for a regular government. Although the US State Department has not yet disclosed name of the appointed envoy, yet, according to reports, this duty will be performed by Mr. Peter Tomson, the US Charge d' Affairs in China. He will stay in Washington and will frequently visit Pakistan until American government establishes regular diplomatic relations with Mujahideen's interim government (BBC, 7 April).

The Afghan Government has said that the American decision to appoint special envoy is apparently aimed at supervising the distribution of arms and economic assistance to the Afghan rebels, which is an

unfriendly act. A spokesman of the Foreign Ministry said in Kabul that this move was a violation of the Geneva Accords. He said that this would undermine any course of political settlement of the Afghan issue.

The spokesman recalled that the Geneva Accords on Afghanistan also provided for non-interference in the internal affairs of Afghanistan (AIR, 8 April).

The Foreign Minister of the exiled government of the Afghan Mujahideen, Mr. Gulbadin Hikmatyar has said that the appointment of Mr. Peter Thomson by the United States as its Special Envoy for the Afghan Mujahideen was the first step towards recognising the government of the Mujahideen. He, however, added that he failed to understand why was the United States making delay in according recognition to the Mujahideen government. Mr. Hikmatyar claimed that the Mujahideen had fulfilled all the conditions for securing recognition of their government. He said that they were in effective control of 95% area of Afghanistan and that they were running the local administration of at least four provinces (BBC, 10 April).

Addressing newsmen in Calcutta, Indian Prime Minister, Mr. Rajiv Gandhi has said that the American decision to appoint special envoy for the interim government of the Afghan Mujahideen will further worsen the situation. He also gave his own impression about the situation in Afghanistan.

Mr. Gandhi said that the Afghan rebels might gain control on some small zones here and there, but the Najibullah Government would remain in power. He also admitted that in Jalalabad where the rebels had been continuing their attacks for the past one month the situation is very difficult (BBC, 7 April).

2 — SOCIO-ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENTS

Kabul, Jalalabad Food Situation

Market prices of food and petrol have been going up again in Kabul during the past week amid usual sign that the Salang supply route from the Soviet Union is being closed. A government spokesman has now confirmed that it has been cut off at two points by Mujahideen forces south on the Salang Pass at Olang and Jabal-e-Siraj. The spokesman said that the government has made arrangements with some Mujahideen groups to let the Russian convoys through in exchange for supplies, but other groups had disagreed and there had been fighting between them. The army has now launched an attack to clear the route again.

For early two weeks there have been few private vehicles coming

into Kabul than another usual food supply route, the road from Jalalabad, which is under siege. Only the occasional donkeys or camel traders are being seen. The citrus food (oranges) which come that way have become very scarce. The diplomatic sources have confirmed government claims that they are getting military and food supplies to Jalalabad at night (BBC, 13 April).

The Coordinator of the United Nations Project for supplying food aid to Afghanistan has appealed to countries, which had pledged to send food to Afghanistan, to do so quickly.

The Coordinator, Mr. Leon Deragmatham (ph) said that unless they did, his stock of food would run out in three weeks.

Fourteen million dollars worth of supplies have been promised to Afghanistan but only one United Nations plane-load has reached the country because of the problem of finding pilots willing to fly to the capital, Kabul.

Mr. Deragmatham said the people were not starving because they were used to living on meagre diet but he said the price of basic food was too high for many (BBC, 7 April).

The fifth aircraft of India, loaded with fifteen thousand kilograms of edible oil, arrived in Kabul today.

The documents about this supply were handed over by the Indian Ambassador to Afghanistan, to an officer of the Afghan Trade Ministry (Radio Kabul, 9 April).

Sixth plane from India carrying 13,500 kilograms sugar landed at Kabul International Airport today. The documents in respect of the assistance were handed over to the officials of the Commerce Ministry by the Indian Charge d' Affairs in Kabul today (Radio Kabul, 16 April).

Another big convoy carrying food and arms to Afghanistan from the Soviet Union has reached Kabul.

Afghan helicopter gunships flew overhead as columns of tanks and other armoured vehicles accompanied the first of some five hundred trucks into the city. The convoy has taken more than six weeks to complete the two hundred and fifty miles journey along the Salang Highway which normally takes three days (BBC, 19 April).

Protocol Signed

A protocol on direct cooperation was concluded in Leningrad on 17 April, between the Afghan province of Herat and Soviet city of Leningrad. The protocol covers the issue of training Afghan Cadres and sending foodstuff, construction materials and techno-machinery to Herat city, on gratis basis (Kabul Times, 23 April).

Photo Exhibition on Afghan Jehad

The Afghan students held an exhibition of photos and films of Afghan jehad in the George Mason University of Virginia in Washington DC on 11th April. The students also invited US Congressmen and others to witness the exhibition. In addition to these photos, there were some photos of those cities which were displayed to apprise the people to what extent the Soviet troops with the help of Kabul regime forces destroyed and damaged these cities and relics during the war. There were some other planks on which photos of tanks and other military equipments were pasted captured by the Mujahideen from the Soviet and Kabul regime troops. There were also photos of unexploded bombs. When the people study these photos and compare them with the pre-war photos, they will come to know to what extent Afghanistan has been ruined and damaged. There were also photos of the Mujahideen and civilians who have either been injured or crippled or lost their limbs in the war (VOA, 12 April).

Soviet Prisoners

E.N. Martin Secretary General of Amnesty International Organisation concluded a visit to the USSR recently. With regard to the problem of Soviet prisoners of war in Afghanistan Mr. E.N. Martin said his organisation could not remain indifferent to their plight. He said given the necessary information Amnesty International would take action on their behalf and try to do everything to save their lives (Radio Moscow, 2 April).

The Soviet Deputy Foreign Minister Vladimir Petrovsky has received a delegation of the national committee for the release of the Soviet prisoners of war in Afghanistan. He informed the delegation of progress of the work the Foreign Ministry had been conducting in collaboration with other organisations for the earliest possible release of Soviet prisoners of war. He said its work had helped return home a total of more than twenty soldiers. Vladimir Petrovsky described the efforts to find Soviet prisoners of war and have them released as a major task of the Ministry's activities (Radio Moscow, 14 April).

Kabul Prison

A Commander of the Harkat-e-Islami of Afghanistan has said that there are 20,000 prisoners in the Pul-e-Charkhi jail in Kabul and they are being tortured with sophisticated instruments. According to an IRNA report, the commander said, Najib regime is creating harassment among citizens of Kabul. He added, that following the declaration of emergency in the country, the Kabul regime arrested 350 citizens of

Kabul on the charge of cooperating with the Mujahideen (Radio Tehran, 4 April).

3 — REPATRIATION AND RECONSTRUCTION

Afghan Refugees

The United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, Mr. Tean Pierre Hocke has expressed grave concern over the fresh huge influx of Afghan refugees into Pakistan. Mr. Hocke who visited a refugee camp near Kohat said that the refugees are facing great difficulties and that they hope that their repatriation and rehabilitation will take place soon.

According to AFP, three more refugee camps have been opened in the North Western Frontier Province of Pakistan close to the Afghan border as more refugees are crossing into Pakistan from Jalalabad area (Radio Bangladesh, 5 April).

The life conditions for children in Afghan refugee camps is very critical and there is no alternative for the children but to work. So far as the youths are concerned, most of them have been martyred in the war inside Afghanistan. The Director of the US Aid Agency "Save The Children" while throwing light on the conditions of the Afghan children, said that most of them did not know as to under what critical conditions they were living. Most of these children were suffering from Tuberculosis or Malaria and they had no medical facilities. Out of every three Afghan children, one child dies before attaining the age of five years. The Director adds that there is not much money available for the Afghan refugees and still there is a lot of work to be done for them. For example there are two million children in the refugee camps but only seventy thousand of them have educational facilities. Fifty six private aid agencies which are serving the Afghan refugees voluntarily are trying to create better conditions for the children (VOA, 6 April).

Land Mines

Kenneth Broakley, a high official of the American government has stated that the United States will provide 2.5 million dollars for the United Nations Programme to sweep mines in Afghanistan. He told this on television in reply to the questions by the journalists from the European and Gulf countries. The BBC says in a report that statement by Mr. Broakley is of symbolic importance because, the United States has announced to participate in the United Nations relief works in Afghanistan for the first time.

The UN Coordinator, Prince Sadruddin Agha Khan has said, that one billion dollars have been contributed to the United Nations appeal

for one billion eighty crore dollars programme for reconstruction in Afghanistan. Most of it is in shape of goods, instead of cash. Prince Sadruddin dismissed the criticism that with the efforts to provide relief to the masses in Kabul, the Afghan government is getting support. He said that all Afghan Mujahideen organisations have agreed with their programme. And it is particularly not being used by the Kabul government for political objectives because under this programme very much needy, ridden with winter and hunger, sicks and elders are being helped. It will be a tragedy if most of the Afghan refugees are forced to face another winter season in exile, Prince Sadruddin replied to a question (BBC, 5 April).

The Soviet Union has said that it is prepared to help in the clean-up of land-mines scattered throughout Afghanistan.

The United Nations Coordinator for Afghanistan Aid, Prince Sadruddin Agha Khan said the Soviet offer included the delivery of special equipments and the training of clean-up crew (VOG, 5 April).

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